MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 APRIL 1981

Lebanon

Israeli Intervention--Jerusalem radio reported that Israeli planes shot down two Syrian helicopters, one north of Riyaq and the other near Zahlah. Although the radio said the helicopters had been attacking Christian strongholds on the mountains overlooking Zahlah, a Syrian official spokesman said in a statement reported by Damascus television that the two downed helicopters were carrying food supplies. He said the Israeli planes also strafed Syrian military positions in Lebanon. Voice of Lebanon radio said the Israeli planes bombed the edge of the French redoubt and the hills overlooking Zahlah. The Israeli move came after the government had issued a statement, reported by Jerusalem radio, saying Israel could not allow the Syrians to take over Lebanon and annihilate the Christians there.

In an interview with Jerusalem radio after the operation, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin said the Syrian helicopters were downed in line with his government's statement, because over the last few days Syria had been killing Lebanese Christians and trying to take over Lebanon. He said that if the Syrians succeeded in taking over the central Lebanese mountains, which have been the scene of recent fighting, they would be able to shell Juniyah, the Christians' only port. While denying that Israel wants to get involved in a conflict with Syria, Begin indicated that such operations will continue if needed to prevent a Syrian takeover. He also asserted that Israel exhausted diplomatic efforts before resorting to military action against Syria, saying the United States had tried to convince Syria to stop attacking Phalangists but that the Syrians had responded with "total contempt." Asked by IDF radio to comment on the operation, Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said Israel was conveying the message that "there will be no Syrian air activity in Lebanese airspace."

According to Damascus radio, the newspaper TISHRIN described the Israeli action as a serious escalation of the situation, carried out deliberately after consultation and coordination with the United States. Claiming that Syria has no enemies and no aspirations in Lebanon, TISHRIN said Syria aims only to protect Lebanon, preserve its unity, security and peace, maintain its Arab character and pan-Arab role and prevent its transformation into a headquarters or passageway for conspiracies against Syria and the Palestinian revolution. TISHRIN said Syria will not hesitate to confront any Israeli intervention and to respond to all provocations.

General Military Situation--According to Beirut radio, the capital was calm on 28 April apart from ground fire against overflying Israeli aircraft, while calm was restored in Zahlah after tension earlier in the day. Voice of Lebanon had earlier reported that intensive Syrian shelling of Zahlah killed 12 and wounded 46 and that Syrian MiG-21's overflew the city. Fighting continued on the Sannin heights, the radio said, with the shelling extending to Biskinta. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) and leftist nationalist movement forces continued fierce fighting with Phalangists and Lebanese Army units in the Al-Matn area with battles centering on Tallat al-Mazar. According to Voice of Palestine, Israeli artillery shelled Palestinian positions in Hasbayyah and M'alliyah on 29 April. Beirut radio reported further Israeli shelling of An-Nabatiyah and other Palestinian positions in the evening of 28 April and noted Israeli military movements in the border strip.

Beirut Meetings, Comments--After meeting with President Ilyas Sarkis and other officials, Beirut radio reported, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said agreement has been reached on practical steps to end the crisis through a national detente involving all parties. Later Khaddam, Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held a lengthy meeting with Phalangist Party chief Pierre al-Jumayyil, Voice of Lebanon reported, after which Al-Jumayyil said he was satisfied and optimistic and described the meeting as serious, real and sincere. Beirut radio reported that former President Camille Sham'un also met President Ilyas Sarkis during the day. After the meeting Sham'un said he was cautiously optimistic and called for an understanding that safeguards the sovereignty, independence, dignity and vital interests of both Syria and Lebanon.

Voice of Lebanon reported that the two government ministers from Zahlah, Defense Minister Joseph Skaf and Public Works and Transport Minister Ilyas al-Hirawi, have threatened to resign. As a result, the radio said, the Syrians have ordered a cease-fire in Zahlah.

Libya-USSR

Moscow radio reported the conclusion of Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's talks in Moscow with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and other officials. It said discussions centered on the international situation, the unity of anti-imperialist forces and Soviet-Libyan cooperation. According to JANA, officials of the two countries signed a protocol on economic and technical cooperation. TASS reported Al-Qadhdhafi's departure on 29 April.

Saudi Arabia

Citing the FRG Government spokesman, the West German news agency DPA reported that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has told Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz that at present it is impossible for the FRG to sell arms to Saudi Arabia. However, according to another DPA report, Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal told a press conference at the end of Schmidt's visit to Riyadh that his country will continue to seek military cooperation with the FRG. He said that Saudi-FRG relations should not be subject to any restrictions and that the FRG should reexamine its arms export policy. Schmidt told the press conference that during his visit the two countries reaffirmed their friendly relations and sought to expand economic and political cooperation. An earlier DPA report said the two countries have agreed that the German elite police unit, Border Protection Group 9, will help the Saudis form a similar commando unit.

Iran

In the wake of the 27 April confrontation in Tehran between Mojahedin-e Khalq supporters and Muslim fundamentalists, a Tehran radio commentary has criticized Iranian authorities for not taking measures to deal with agitators, for not informing citizens of who is responsible for recent clashes and for not legislating on political parties. Under circumstances in which the enemy is working to defeat the revolution from within, it said, the most important duty of the judiciary and law enforcement officials is to explain their actions and inform the people of all such subversive activities so that they can help end them.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces repulsed Iraqi assaults in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, forcing Iraqi troops to retreat, destroying 66 tanks and downing 3 MiG's. On the other hand, an Iraqi General Command communique, broadcast by Baghdad radio, said Iraqi troops were advancing successfully in the region, inflicting heavy losses on the Iranians. Tehran radio also reported continued clashes near Abadan and Khuninshahr and along the western fronts. It said another Iraqi MiG was downed over Naft-e Shah.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 082 *29 April 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Qaddumi Makes Statement on Events in Lebanon [VOP] A 1
'Arafat Sends Cables on Situation in Lebanon [VOP] A 1
Message to Chedli Klibi A 1
Cable to Castro A 2
Monte Carlo Radio Interviews Khalid Al-Hasan A 2
VOP Interviews Abu Musa on Latest Israeli Raids A 6
Negev Arabs Refuse To Serve in Israeli Army [VOP] A 8
Palestinian Command Holds Meeting on Lebanon [VOP] A 8

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Amir Al-Khalifah in India for Weeklong Visit [cross-reference] C 1

KUWAIT

Materials on Foreign Minister's Visit to USSR [cross-reference] C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Helmut Schmidt Visits for Official Talks C 1
FRG, Saudi Delegations Named C 1
Foreign Minister on Relations C 2
ARAB NEWS Editorial [27 Apr] C 2
'UKAZ Urges U.S. To Resist Israeli 'Mischief' [25 Apr] C 3
AL-JAZIRAH Reports Austria Ready To Sell Arms [23 Apr] C 4

UAE

As-Sadat's Offer To Rejoin Arab Ranks Rejected [AL-KHALIJ 28 Apr] C 4
British Team To Visit for Aircraft Negotiations [AL-BAYAN 26 Apr] C 5

PDRY

YSP Central Committee Begins Third Session C 5

EGYPT

MENA Reports on Abu Ghazalah's Washington Talks D 1
Commentary Views Mideast, Superpower Contacts D 2
AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Israel's Warning to Syria D 3
AL-JUMHURIYAH Views Al-Qadhdhafi's Moscow Visit D 3
MAY Interviews As-Sadat on Democracy, Parties D 4

IRAQ

Taha Ramadan Pays Official Visit to Bulgaria [cross-reference] E 1
Ramadan Returns From East Europe; Makes Statement E 1
Armed Forces General Command Communique 320 E 1
Vice President Views Israel, War With Iran E 2

JORDAN

Information Minister Explains Stand on Mideast F 1
Amman Reports Corruption Scandal in Syria F 1

LEBANON

Khaddam, Government, Faction Leaders Hold Talks G 1
Khaddam Statement G 1
Talks, Sham'un Statement G 1
Al-Jumayyil Statement G 2
Israelis Attack Syrian Helicopters, Position G 2
Al-Wazzan Criticizes Shelling, Israeli Action G 3
Information, Tourism Ministers Denounce Israel G 3
Zahlah Shelling Continues; Ministers To Resign G 3
Zahlah Ministers G 4
Rival Armed Groups Reportedly Clash in Tripoli G 4
Haddad Comments on Current Developments 29 Apr G 4

SYRIA

Official Spokesman on Israeli Plane Attacks H 1
VOL Reports Clahses Among Various Muslim Sects H 1
Peace Council Official Returns From Havana H 2

ISRAEL

Second Syrian Helicopter Downed in Lebanon I 1
Begin, Others Comment on Lebanon Developments I 1
Begin on Policy Change I 1
Begin Explains Objective I 2
Begin Television Interview I 3
Tzipori Interview I 5
Eytan Remarks I 5
Further Comment I 6
Dyan Statement I 7
28 Apr Ministerial Talks Weigh Syrian Moves I 7
'Resolution' Cited I 8

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Leaders Greet New Mauritanian Counterparts 27 Apr Q 1
Cooperation Protocol Signed With Czechoslavakia Q 1

LIBYA

JANA Reports on Al-Qadhdhafi's Visit to Moscow Q 1
Religious Activities Q 1
Moscow Radio Coverage Q 1
Communique on Malagasy Foreign Minister's Visit Q 2

MAURITANIA

New Cabinet Meets to Establish Commissions Q 3

SUDAN

SUNA Cited on Libyan Massacre of Ulemas in Chad Q 3

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

President Discusses Need To Solve Horn Issue R 1

ETHIOPIA

Mubarak Says Tripartite Meeting Not 'Bloc' R 1
Cuban Assistance Praised by Agriculture Official R 1

SOMALIA

SRC Announces Decree on Government Changes R 2
Barre Receives Message From Omani Sultan R 3
Salvation Front Leader Interviewed on Aims, Views R 3
[Damascus AL-BA'TH 15 Apr]

UGANDA

Three Arrested for Assassination Attempt R 5
Group Claims Responsibility for 22 Apr Attack R 5

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Aim of Goukouni's Visit to Tripoli Assessed S 1
FAN Commissioner Removed for 'High Treason' S 1

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Authorities Ask USSR To Reduce Diplomatic Staff S 2

ZAIRE

President Mobutu's Address to Parliament 28 Apr S 2

WEST AFRICA

LIBERIA

'Heavy Crime Wave' Reported in Nimba County T 1

UPPER VOLTA

Warning Issued to People Posing as CMRN Members T 1

BRIEFS

Niger Envoy to France; Nigerian Aircraft Purchase; T 1
Japanese Ambassador to Senegal; Togo-Vatican Relations

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

SRV, Angolan Youth Condemn Occupation of Namibia U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg Comments on Planned Haig-Botha Talks U 1
Plans for Production of Enriched Uranium Reported U 2
Transkei Leader Notes Suspicious Coast Incidents U 2

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Concerned About Stand on South Africa U 2

QADDUMI MAKES STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN LEBANON

NC290821 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Undated statement made by head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi--identified by his nom de guerre Abu al-Lutf--read by announcer]

[Text] The Lebanese cities and villages and the Palestinian camps have in the past few days been subjected to savage raids carried out by U.S.-made Israeli aircraft, resulting in the killing and wounding of hundreds of people and the destruction of houses, public utilities and farms. At the same time the Israeli-supported Lebanese isolationist forces continued to shell these Lebanese areas and Palestinian camps, prompting the PLO to call for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss these savage aggressions against the civilians.

We were surprised today by Israel and the United States raising fabricated clamor on the pretext of protecting the Christians in Lebanon, disregarding the organized official Israeli military terrorist annihilation campaign against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in southern Lebanon.

At a time when the Lebanese are aspiring for the achievement of calm and stability in Lebanon and blocking the way to any Israeli intervention, the Israeli raids on the hills around Zahlah come today to confirm the size of the plot which Israel is seeking to implement in Lebanon to turn it into an Israeli protectorate with open U.S. support.

While affirming its concern for the security, safety and unity of Lebanon the PLO draws attention to the danger of Israeli intervention in Lebanon, which threatens world peace and reflects U.S. determination to maintain its policy, which is hostile to the peoples of the area. This requires the exertion of every effort to enable the Lebanese legitimate authority and the local forces, with the support of Syria and the PLO, to deal with the situation in Lebanon through the Arab will embodied by the Arab summit resolutions on Lebanon and away from any foreign intervention with a view to achieving what all of us want to achieve, namely, the restoration of calm in Lebanon and the creation of suitable conditions for national accord that would guarantee Lebanon's unity, safety and security and the right of the Palestinian resistance to exist and move in the Lebanese arena.

'ARAFAT SENDS CABLES ON SITUATION IN LEBANON

Message to Chedli Klibi

JN281945 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1845 GMT 28 Apr 81

["Text" of cable from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat--identified by the source by his nom de guerre of Abu 'Ammar--to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi; date not given]

[Text] Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League: Greetings.

Yesterday and today the Zionist enemy launched treacherous air attacks against our forces' positions and against our people in southern Lebanon, using the most modern U.S. planes that are equipped with incendiary rockets. The attacks included 13 positions in the Sidon and Tyre regions. Three combat squadrons took part in this attack, which led to heavy losses in lives, equipment and property among the military and civilians. This is part of the continuing filthy war of attrition being launched by Israeli forces against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in southern Lebanon.

The Zionist enemy's continued singling out of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in southern Lebanon in such savageness will inevitably lead to a complete explosion of the situation in the region. It is an organized official Irsaeli act of terrorism undertaken by the fascist Israeli forces with candid U.S. approval and blessing, clearly expressed in the U.S. officials' official statements. The Arabs must not keep silent over this situation.

I appeal to you to move on the Arab and international levels to put an end to this plot and to this organized annihilation of our innocent Palestinian-Lebanese masses. History will record all this. Proceeding from this fact, I appeal to our Arab nation's masses and leaders to shoulder their pan-Arab responsibilities.

Cable to Castro

JN281916 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1845 GMT 28 Apr 81

["Text" of cable from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat--identified by the source by his nom de guerre of Abu 'Ammar--to Cuban President Fidel Castro in his capacity as chairman of the nonaligned states' conference--date not given]

[Text] Greetings of the revolution. Yesterday and today the Israeli enemy launched treacherous air strikes against the position of our forces and people in southern Lebanon, using the most modern planes of U.S. imperialism. These planes are supplied with fragmentation and incendiary rockets. The strikes included 13 positions in the Tyre, Sidon, An-Nabatiyah and As-Sa'diyat regions. Three combat squadrons took part in the strikes, inflicting heavy losses in lives and property on the Palestinian and Lebanese civilians. This is part of the filthy war of attrition which has been launched by the Israeli forces against the Palestinian revolution, the joint forces and the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in southern Lebanon.

The enemy's continued aggression with such savageness aims at destroying our Palestinian camps and the Lebanese villages and inflicting further human losses on our Lebanese and Palestinian masses, particularly old people, children and women.

I appeal to Comrade Castro to stand in support of our people and their struggle in your capacity as leader of the Nonaligned Movement. I also appeal to you to move and confront the fascist-imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and to stand in the face of this organized official Israel terrorism against the Palestinian and Lebanese civilians, an aggression which is blessed by world imperialism and particularly by the United States, as is evident in the statements made by its leaders, officials and official spokesmen.

Accept my sincere greetings and warm wishes.

MONTE CARLO RADIO INTERVIEWS KHALID AL-HASAN

JN251245 Monte Carlo Radio in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 24 Apr 81

[Monte Carlo Radio correspondent's interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member--live or recorded--intercepted in progress]

[Excerpts] [Question] Regarding the Palestinian-Lebanese relationship, what has the resistance done to facilitate the work of the legitimate authority other than giving verbal support? It is said that the resistance has hampered the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south. It is also said that the resistance is exercising some form of tutelege over some groups of the Lebanese National Movement and is, therefore, preventing a ra[illegible]rochement between the movement and the Lebanese Front.

[Answer] It was thought that we would be an obstacle to the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south. Well, we were not the obstacle. The obstacle was the Rhodes agreements, which bar the presence of more than 1,500 Lebanese soldiers in the south. Therefore, it was the Israeli forces, not the Palestinian forces, which resisted the entry of the Lebanese Army. The south is open. Needless to say, it is a thousand times better for us to see the Lebanese Army in the south than the Israeli Army or even the UN forces.

Regarding verbal support, what can we do in Lebanon other than supporting the legitimate authority and saying that we are ready to come to an agreement with it on everything that contributes to Lebanon's territorial integrity, independence and unity--people and government. We cannot do more than that. If we did otherwise, we would be interfering in Lebanon's affairs. The Lebanese, who values his complete freedom, will reject any interference in his domestic affairs. Herein lies the greatness of the Lebanese people. They greatly value their freedom and will not allow anyone to interfere in their affairs despite their military weakness. I am speaking about the Lebanese as a whole. Of course, there is an exception to every rule.

As for the talk about Palestinian tutelege, I do not think that this is true. Despite the chaos in Lebanon the Lebanese National Movement will not accept being under anyone's tutelege.

[Question] It is said that the Palestinian resistance is the military arm of the Lebanese National Movement.

[Answer] It is said, but is it true? Are we indeed anyone's military arm, and is anyone our military arm? The thing is, there has been an incorrect analysis of the conflict in the Lebanese arena blaming the Palestinians for this conflict. Everyone who is acquainted with the social situation in Lebanon--beginning with Father Dubre and others before him and after him--knows that there are other undeclared reasons behind the Lebanese conflict. The recent incidents are the greatest proof. The self-restraint exercised by the Palestinians during these incidents was most commendable. How could we exercise tutelege over anyone when we ourselves are aginst the tutelege of any Arab regime over us.

[Question] The enemy is lurking in the south. And, it seems that the Palestinian resistance is scared these days of the international situation, but especially of the situation in southern Lebanon. Do you think that Israel might embark on a large-scale operation?

[Answer] We are indeed concerned but not scared. We are concerned about the possibility of a large-scale military operation by the Zionist enemy, because of the impending Israeli elections. Begin may want to attract voters in occupied Palestine by highlighting the security situation rather than the deteriorating economic situation. He may want to exploit the current hopeless situation on the Arab and international levels by finally solving the problem of the Litani River waters. After all, the Litani River waters are the main reason for the occupation of the south and the crux of the problem. All this is possible. Statements by U.S. officials are providing justifications for the military actions conducted by the Israeli forces in the south.

The operations might expand. However, international circumstances would discourage Israel from embarking on any large-scale operation so as to avoid a wider conflagration that might involve the entire region. Therefore, there is great concern over the escalation of the armed conflict by the Zionist enemy. Because, if this conflict assumed larger proportions or took the form of an all-out attack to occupy the whole south up to the Litani River, this would mean a wider flareup not only in Lebanon, but also in the whole of the Middle East.

[Question] Let us now talk about the Palestinian resistance's relations, especially the PLO's relations with Jordan. Some Palestinian leaders say that the door to the dialogue between the resistance and Jordan is more or less closed now.

[Answer] The official PLO report read out by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] says that the dialogue has reached a deadlock. Nobody said that the door to the dialogue was closed. The door to the dialogue is still open. The dialogue has reached a deadlock for several reasons, mainly the failure to reach a common ground on political stands. However, the Palestine National Council [PNC] has recommended the continuation of the dialogue with Jordan under the terms and rules set for it. We hope that it will be possible to overcome all obstacles so that the dialogue will come to a successful conclusion under the rules set by the PNC: complete rejection of the Camp David accords and autonomy and implementation of the Arab summit resolutions in the Arab arena.

[Question] I cannot really understand how the door to the dialogue can be open, when the dialogue itself is deadlocked.

[Answer] It is really simple. When you court a girl, you may not achieve results in the first attempt. But the door remains open. So you continue in your attempts until you are let in and agreement is reached on marriage.

[Question] Then the father and mother are pleased.

[Answer] And the bride herself is pleased.

[Question] The PNC has authorized the PLO leadership to conduct an economic dialogue through the Joint Coordination Committee, but it has not authorized it to conduct a political dialogue with Jordan.

[Answer] Permit me to say that you are misinformed. You have read the recommendation before it was debated by the council. Some brothers feel that it is useless to pursue the dialogue because it would lead to no result. Others are of the opinion that the dialogue must continue even if the results are uncertain. We must try if only to free our conscience before history and to be able to say afterward that we tried but failed. The decision to continue the dialogue under the rules set for it is still valid. But the point is, the Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness in the Occupied Territory has been given more attention. General rules were also set so this committee can fulfil its programs in a more organized manner. There are no basic problems on this score.

[Question] Is there any possibility of an accord between the European initiative and the Soviet proposals?

[Answer] I believe there is a very big possibility for accord. The USSR speaks about self-determination without setting any conditions for it. What Europe should do is cancel its conditions for self-determination. Once it did that, it would be in the same position as the USSR. The USSR recognizes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. It also calls for an international conference to be attended by all the Arab parties, including the PLO. Europe has not reached this point, although it considers the PLO as one of the parties. When Europe considers the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, it would be in the same position as the USSR.

The USSR recognizes the role of the United Nations, both during the transitional stages and protection [ri'ayah]. So far, Europe has not said anything about the United Nations. I believe the United Nations must be present; after all it was the one that created the Palestinian problem. I don't think that the presence of the United Nations would pose a problem with Europe, because this is an international principle which nobody can dispute.

I believe, therefore, that an accord between Europe and the USSR is very possible, especially since Mr Brezhnev has expressed readiness to cooperate with any positive European stand. He announced this in the same speech in which he made his declaration on the subject, which is now known as the Soviet proposal.

The PNC welcomed this proposal just as it welcomed the Venice and Luxembourg declarations, although it noted that those declarations were insufficient. The council's welcome of the Soviet proposal did not take the form of absolute approval, but rather serious welcome, because it considered it a step ahead of Europe.

[Question] There remains the United States, and here lies the difficulty. Who can persuade the United States, particularly after what has been learned about its policy since the election of President Reagan?

[Answer] I cannot believe at present that the United States has a guided policy because the statements made are more spontaneous than planned. Statements are often made without justification. Why, I cannot say. However, if Europe and the Soviet Union reached a unified stand on this subject together with the Arab world, the Islamic world and the world of the nonaligned states, I believe that the United States will not remain intransigent but will have to change its stand because, in this case, Europe will have adopted a trend toward achieving peace, and not merely security, in the region. Therefore, an accord between the Soviet Union and Europe may lead to a change in the U.S. stand, although I believe that this will not be achieved quickly due to what is currently existing between the two camps--what can almost be called a type of cold war. However, all indications--whether those referring to the Soviet proposal for a meeting between Brezhnev and Reagan or the continuous Soviet reiteration that the Soviet Union is ready to discuss the suspended issues--show that the process may be that of waiting until the two giants or two superpowers return to meet again and reach a certain formula of international accord. This may make matters easier.

[Question] Thus far, the new U.S. administration's policy has not become quite clear. Has Haig communicated anything to the Palestinians, for instance, during his recent tour, or what has he told the Arab officials he met on the Palestinian issue?

[Answer] Haig has not communicated a message to the Palestinians. However, what Haig said reached the Palestinians and we have carefully studied it. I believe that Mr Haig has encountered some sort of shock because he found that the Arab stand which faced him--I do not mean by this his visit to Egypt or the Zionist enemy, but I mean his visit to the other Arab countries--was almost the opposite of his stand as regards procedures before getting to the crux of the subject. It seems that Mr Haig is much influenced by his military past, for he wants to exercise politics in a military manner. For example, when he says that there is a Soviet onslaught which should be confronted before we confront the Israeli onslaught or the danger posed by the explosion of the Arab-Israeli struggle, he appeals to a military logic that does not apply to political logic. When an attack occurs, soldiers must first stop the offensive and then launch a counterattack. Politically, the matter is different.

It has been explained to Haig that this sort of thinking cannot be practically exercised. Moreover, Haig said that stability must first be achieved, then security and solution. This also seems to be nearer to military tactics than political tactics because this does not happen in politics, where you first find a solution, and through solutions security and stability are then achieved providing that the solution is just and based on the principles of justice and peace, and not on imposition. Any solution based on imposition cannot achieve stability, even if it achieves security. He was faced with these stands. I believe that Mr Haig must now reconsider all the priorities and methods of his trend of thinking if he wants to deal with the Middle East issue and Middle East problems. Otherwise, Haig cannot achieve any success and his method will be conductive to explosion, even between the United States and its friends in the region.

VOP INTERVIEWS ABU MUSA ON LATEST ISRAELI RAIDS

NC281508 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1135 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Interview with Abu Musa, assistant chief of the central operations room of the joint forces, no date given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brother Abu Musa, assistant chief of the central operations room of the joint forces: Lately, the situation became exacerbated throughout almost all of Lebanon, particularly in southern Lebanon, where the area witnessed the largest Zionist air aggression this year. What is your evaluation of the military situation in southern Lebanon and in the Lebanese arena and the political framework of these events?

[Answer] In fact, one should begin first with the political situation which reflects upon the military question. We all have seen, since the visit of U.S. Secretary of State General Haig to the area, that the United States came to the Middle East carrying American worries, namely, that all statements made by the U.S. administration say that the first danger in the Middle East was now that of the Soviet Union.

During her recent visit to the Middle East, the British prime minister also affirmed these statements and said that the main danger in the Middle East was that of the Soviet Union. Everybody knows that the main danger at present in the Middle East was not a Soviet danger, but that of Zionism and Israel, which is the instrument of U.S. imperialism in the area.

After Haig's visit, therefore, we heard convulsive statements by Israel and its agents in the area, all of whom reiterated that a serious stand must be adopted against the Soviet Union and its danger toward the area. This surely means striking all the nationalist, democratic and progressive forces in the area. The talk about the Soviet Union was no more than a coverup for striking the democratic, progressive and revolutionary forces in the area. Hence, we see that the exacerbation of the Israeli military action against the joint forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement was in coordination with these political statements.

For over 2 months Israel has been carrying out continuous operations in southern Lebanon and along the coastal strip. These operations were in the form of raids or night ambushes laid by men landing from rubber boats on the Lebanese coast. However, the vigilance and resistance of the fighters and of the joint forces have confirmed the failure of these operations and inflicted many losses upon the Israeli enemy forces. Therefore, we see that the commando operations by helicopters have also failed to yield the results desired by the Israeli command. All helicopter attacks failed to reach their goals or to carry out useful operations in favor of Israel. The losses were many, by Israel's admission, among the Israeli attackers.

We see that Israel then started developing its air operations. I believe that this was an evasion of the confrontation, because the land confrontation was no longer useful to the attacking Israeli forces. Therefore, they resorted to air raids. The air raids were not combat operations in the sense that they include a confrontation between forces. All that these involve is that squadrons of planes drop their bombs and then leave the battlefield. The Israeli air operation was not a military action but an unethical action. The dropping of bombs from planes can in no way hit specific targets if Israel wanted to strike the joint forces. The evidence of this is that most of the casualties were, regrettably, among the civilians.

Israel is presently undertaking intensive raids. The day before yesterday, Israel used a total of about 32 planes, which raided the An-Nabatiyah area and its outskirts, such as Al-Jarmaq and 'Arab Salim.

At the same time Israeli planes attacked targets in the Sidon area and its outskirts, including Al-Hilaliyah, Kafr Habil and Mar Ilyas. These areas, in fact, were not positions of the joint forces. There might be mobile positions in that area, but these were civilian positions. We have no military presence in the combat sense. Our military presence and position were not in the suburbs of Sidon or in the villages. They are far away. We might have mobile forces every now and then passing through that area, so we see that all the casualties in these raids were among the civilians--women, children and old men.

Moreover, in its latest air raid yesterday, Israel used three different squadrons of planes, which included Phantoms, Skyhawks and Mirages. Israel is also trying to avoid our antiaircraft missiles by using large quantities of thermal ballons which draw the missiles away from the planes.

Our intensive antiaircraft fire yesterday succeeded in hitting two planes, one of which was seen by many journalists, correspondents and southerners, who were watching the battle, fall into the sea. Last night there were many groups of Israeli boats searching for the plane and its pilot in the sea opposite the township of Sidon. Our artillery and ground resistance hit these boats and prevented them from carrying out their scheduled searches.

We, as a military force, believe that Israel will continue to intensely disturb the atmosphere by its air operations and will avoid ground resistance because our joint forces are continuously ready, have drawn up the necessary plans and have taken all the appropriate measures to face this enemy on the ground. We fight these raids with antiaircraft fire and our resistance has succeeded in hitting the raiding planes in every phase of the attack.

The tension will increase with the approach of the Israeli elections. We believe that the Likud will attempt to record electoral stands at the expense of striking our Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. However, we say to all those who are attempting to increase tension that we are ready and lying in wait for all these aggressive military actions.

We also presently see the conformity between the Israeli attacks in the south and the isolationist-Israeli aggressions in Beirut and its suburbs, starting with what was planned by the isolationists in Zahlah to link the isolationist forces in the mountains and in Zahlah, Al-Biqa' with these forces in the south. The blow dealt to the isolationist forces in Zahlah and the blows they are receiving now in the Sannin heights and in the French redoubt area in Biskinta as well as the national movement's forces control of ('Ayn Qurah), Tarshish, (Ghabatulunya) and Duhur ash-Shuwayr have frustrated the isolationist-Zionist plan, which aimed at linking the mountain area of Zahlah with the south. The Israeli command was disappointed because it could not reach the depth of Lebanon through the Lebanese Front. The command intensified its strikes and started to wreak vengeance on the Lebanese and Palestinian masses and the joint forces on the Lebanese arena.

Yesterday we saw how the isolationist forces escalated their indiscriminate shelling of the residential quarters in the western sector of Beirut, where many shells fell on the camps and the residential areas. This happened at a time when everybody expected an internal relaxation on the occasion of today's visit of Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam to Lebanon to reach an internal agreement and a Leba~ese-Lebanese accord. It appears, however, that Israel is not pleased with this move in the direction of an accord and it wants to escalate and exacerbate the situation. It instructed the isolationist forces to see to the sudden exacerbation of the situation, which occurred yesterday. In the meantime, Israeli warplanes carried out intensive flights and hit positions in southern Lebanon.

These are matters that do not affect us much. We in the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement have made full security and military preparations and will always confront and foil such strikes.

On this occasion, we must address, from this leading position of the joint forces, our sincere and warm greetings to all the fighters of the national movement and the Palestinian forces in the joint forces for their magnificent steadfastness in the face of these intensive air attacks and of the successive land, sea and air attacks. We greet the men who stand behind their guns to shell everyone who tries to strike our positions and those of our masses. We greet the hands that pull the trigger to send the Israeli warplanes away and prevent them from hitting their targets and destroying any of our positions. We greet the magnificent steadfastness of these men who believed in the cause and upheld it in a responsible and vigilant manner and who are making sacrifices, and giving examples of sacrifice, not only in order to defend the joint forces, the Palestinian revolution and the national movement, but also to defend our nation, our existence, and our past and future. It is a revolution until victory.

NEGEV ARABS REFUSE TO SERVE IN ISRAELI ARMY

JN282040 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] In the wake of a growing wave of rejection of service in the enemy army, particularly after the sons of our peoples of the Druze sect refused to serve in the enemy army, the Arabs in the Negev adopted a similar stand and asserted their refusal to carry arms against their people's sons.

The Zionist enemy is trying, through one of its agents named 'Awadah al-Mu'ammar, to get petitions signed that call for the enemy army's military conscription law to be applied to the Arabs of the Negev.

(Benjamin Gor Elya), adviser to the enemy prime minister on Arab affairs, has revealed that agent 'Awdah al-Mu'ammar belonged to the Zionist intelligence before the establishment of the Zionist entity and that he is mobilizing agents for the enemy army.

PALESTINIAN COMMAND HOLDS MEETING ON LEBANON

JN281912 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] At noon today Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] presided over a meeting of the Palestinian command which included the PLO Executive Committee members and secretary generals of the revolution's groups.

The meeting dealt with a discussion of the situation in the south, the frenzied Israeli military escalation and the procedures adopted in this regard, including the PLO's call for the convocation of the UN Security Council and the cables sent by Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar to King Khalid--in his capacity as chairman of the Islamic Conference--President Fidel Castro--in his capacity as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement--and Chedli Klibi--in his capacity as Arab League secretary general--on the Zionist military escalation in the south and moves on all levels to stop the organized war of annihilation being waged against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

BAHRAIN

AMIR AL KHALIFAH IN INDIA FOR WEEKLONG VISIT

For Delhi media coverage of the visit of Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah to India, including reports on his attendance at diplomatic functions and joint talks, see the Indian section of the 28 April South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

KUWAIT

MATERIALS ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO USSR

For a brief PRAVDA report of the meeting between USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, a lengthy KUNA report on the Gromyko-As-Sabah meeting and dinner speeches and the text of the joint communique issued on the visit and carried by PRAVDA, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 29 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

SAUDI ARABIA

HELMUT SCHMIDT VISITS FOR OFFICIAL TALKS

FRG Saudi Delegations

LD272118 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Apr 81

[Text] The first round of official Saudi-FRG talks began at 2100 today at his majesty the king's palace at Al-Ma'dhar, where the Saudi side was led by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the FRG side was led by his excellency the FRG chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, who is currently on a visit to the kingdom.

The talks were attended on the Saudi side by: His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; His Excellency Dr Rashad Fir'awn, his majesty the king's private adviser; His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; His Excellency Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity and the minister accompanying His Excellency Chancellor Schmidt; and His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Nuri Ibrahim, Saudi ambassador to the FRG.

The talks were attended on the German side by: His Excellency Dr Otto Graf Lambsdorff, federal economics minister; His Excellency Manfred Lahnstein, state secretary and chief of Chancellery; His Excellency Kurt Becker, state secretary and chief of the FRG press and information office; His Excellency Gunter van Well, state secretary in the Foreign Ministry; His Excellency Bernt von Staden, ministerial-director in the Department of Foreign and Intra-German Relations and External Security; and General [as heard] Vestring, FRG ambassador to the kingdom.

SPA has learned that the Saudi and German sides reviewed many important issues, particularly the Middle East and Palestinian questions, and the whole situation through which the Middle East region is currently passing, as well as bilateral relations.

Foreign Minister on Relations

LD290842 Hamburg DPA in German 0731 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 29 Apr (DPA)--Saudi Arabia continues to seek military cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, including supplies of weapons. This was reaffirmed to journalists in Riyadh this morning by the Saudi minister of foreign affairs, Sa'ud al-Faysal, who said that in purchasing arms Saudi Arabia would prefer to turn to those countries with which it felt itself closely allied and which also recognized Saudi Arabia's internal security requirements.

The Saudi foreign minister pointed out that the Federal Republic had also supplied arms to other countries outside NATO, naming among others, Austria and Japan. He said that the federal government's current restrictive arms export policy required careful reexamination. Saudi Arabia was therefore following with satisfaction the present discussion on a modification of these guidelines. The foreign minister stressed that Saudi Arabia continued to consider it important that it remained the Federal Republic's most important economic and political partner outside NATO.

The foreign minister pointed to the close economic ties and stressed that relations should not be subject to restrictions in any field. "We would be happy if this cooperation were also to be extended to the military sector," he added.

ARAB NEWS Editorial

GF281106 Jidda ARAB NEWS in English 27 Apr 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Ties Deepen"]

[Text] Chancellor Helmut Schmidt starts his official visit today as the leader of a friendly Western state with which the kingdom enjoys excellent relations and is eager to develop further. Thre are no problems between the two countries and there have been pratically none since the crisis of 1965 when the United States forced Germany to ship arms to Israel. The U.S. action led the Arab states to sever relations with Bonn while some of the countries established diplomatic relations with East Germany for the first time since World War II.

Since then Germany and the kingdom have been drawing closer in mutual interests, and have exchanged visits at the highest level--promoting both political and economic relations until the kingdom has now become Germany's major trading partner (outside Europe) and the principle source of oil. The Germans, not to be outpaced, have increased their exports 25 times since 1973.

But it is Saudi Arabia's policy and moderation that have attracted German admiration which prompted Schmidt to describe the country as "an excellent element of stability for the Middle East." However, trade alone is not going to be the crucial test of Saudi Arabian-German friendship. The kingdom conducts more business with the United States but the latter has not seen fit to amend its attitudes and policies toward the all-important Middle East question including the future of the occupied Arab lands.

Admittedly Germany is less influential than the United States, and in fact still suffers from American foreign policy, but its importance lies in being a major power of the European economic community in which it musters a substantial weight in shaping foreign policy. Together with France, which has been braver than other members in speaking out about the Middle East problem, it can bring about a new climate of European public opinion that is demonstrably fairer than the American official commitment.

The U.S. administration and Congress may be unsettled by such a trend but it will serve to win Arab appreciation for such a courageous policy. And since this will be done through the EEC, Germany will stand little risk of being singled out for blame by the United States. It will be naive though, and it is so, to expect the so-called European initiative to be of decisive substance in the conflict, but its interest lies in being a departure from the U.S. line of conduct and a condemnation of its blinkered view of the whole issue.

Bilateral relations developed smoothly and rapidly without a hitch--until the German press published what amounted to a Saudi Arabian arms shopping list from Germany. No official request has been issued according to Schmidt, and the Saudi Arabian Government hastened to allay the fears of the German Government by declaring that it was careful to avoid embarrassing it by any demand for defense sales. In order not to embarrass the chancellor on the eve of his visit, Saudi Arabia would prefer to leave the matter up to him to raise during the talks here.

The West considers Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region as perhaps the most important sources of energy and the cornerstone of Western survival for the foreseeable future. But it balks when the kingdom requests to buy arms from them for its defense and to safeguard its own interests and those of its friends. The U.S. Congress threatens to block Reagan's recommendations, the Germans worry about Israeli reaction while others make sure that Israel already has something better in hand than that requested by an Arab country.

Schmidt's visit will be worthwhile in further "deepening our mutual understanding," as Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud had said. He will hear directly from the leadership what he wants to know about the region and the challenges it is facing while the government here will know at first hand what Germany has to say. Then it will be up to him to decide whether this region is important enough to be assisted to defend itself.

'UKAZ URGES U.S. TO RESIST ISRAELI 'MISCHIEF'

LD280933 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 25 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Childish Mischief and Strong Wills"]

[Excerpt] If the U.S. administration really values its friendships and friends in the Arab world and wants to prevent the existence of "loopholes" through which the communist danger could infiltrate, it must rapidly and without delay show that it possesses free will. This is what we expect from the U.S. administration, for otherwise it will condemn the American people to gradually losing their friends as a result of the "childish mischief" of Israel, which is like a child spoiled by the American attitude and sympathy in a manner very harmful to the American people's interests.

If it were not for the sickly and unhealthy links between Washington and Israel, Arab-U.S. relations would have been an example worth emulating. The abhorrent policy of Israel, which in words and in deeds embodies expansionist colonialism, automatically stigmatizes the "American father." Therefore, Washington must hasten to establish peace in the Middle East, for time is running out for peace. The U.S. adoption of Israeli interests primarily serves Soviet policy, heightens Arab and Islamic hatred of the country and strengthens the desire to remain aloof from it. If it were not for U.S. support to Israel, beginning with the loaf of bread and ending with the gun, Israel would not have been able to indulge in its impudent obstinacy and obduracy, which increases world hatred not only of it but also of the United States.

The United States today stands at a critical "crossroads": Either it will pursue the road to preserving good relations with its friends, or it will pursue the "thorny path" that will definitely lead to it losing those friends.

The road to peace, to which it can contribute by upholding what is right, in accordance with the UN resolutions, will enable it to preserve all this.

Giving in to Israel pressure brings nothing but loss. Congress must carefully consider the Arab policy of France and the FRG, which shows that strong wills are capable of freeing themselves, albeit only gradually, from the "mischievousness of the Israeli child."

AL-JAZIRAH REPORTS AUSTRIA READY TO SELL ARMS

LD290957 Jidda AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 23 Apr 81 p 1

[By 'Abd ar-Rahman Idris]

[Text] Jidda, AL-JAZIRAH office--The Austrian Foreign Ministry has announced that the Austrian Government would be pleased to supply the Saudi Arabian Kingdom with arms should it ask for them. An official source at the Austrian Foreign Ministry has told AL-JAZIRAH that this does not conflict with Austria's foreign policy of neutrality. The Austrian Government emphasized this point in its comments on reports disseminated by hostile news media alleging that Austria refuses to furnish the kingdom with arms. The source affirmed that the reports that the Austrian Government intends to purchase Israeli Kfir planes are baseless because Austria does not contemplate purchasing this type of aircraft.

As for the Middle East problem and the Austrian Government's interest in it, this is primarily due to Austria's longstanding historical relations with the Middle East countries. Austria imports 25 percent of its energy resources from the area's countries. Ensuring Austria's continued access to this source of energy is an important factor in guaranteeing its security and stability. No country can possibly disregard important and sensitive international issues such as the Middle East issue and take no interest in them. The Austrian Government's stance is characterized by objectivity and nonalignment in view of its permanent neutrality. It believes that a solution to the existing conflict in the Middle East must be based on the following: ensuring the rights and entity of the Palestinian people, represented by the PLO, including their right to live in peace in their homeland; making its possible for the states in the area to live in peace within recognized borders; and adherence by everyone to the principles of international law in finding a peaceful solution to the existing conflict.

UAE

AS-SADAT'S OFFER TO REJOIN ARAB RANKS REJECTED

GF290800 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 28 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "As-Sadat's Options and the Rejected 'Harmony'"]

[Text] As-Sadat announced recently that he is ready to visit Saudi Arabia. It was not an impromptu announcement. As-Sadat did not accounce it at a press conference but intentionally published it in OCTOBER magazine, which faithfully follows him and which he uses at times when he wants to announce something new. As-Sadat's announcement of his readiness to visit Saudi Arabia was coupled with his announcement he has many "options" to return "harmony" among Arabs. There is one thing he "fears"--that the Saudis may not accept the "Egyptian settlement" with open hearts.

It is strange that As-Sadat sought Saudi "open hearts" at the time when he announced his openness to NATO, eagerly offering himself as a gendarme to West Europe and the United States in the Arab region. Nor did he forget to point out that his offer to join NATO is aimed at defending Saudi Arabia.

Some people may imagine--under the encumbering current Arab situation and after the grave consequences brought about by Egypt's abandonment of Arab ranks--that his announcement marks a good opportunity for Egypt to return to Arab ranks. The fact is that it is not possible to have "open hearts" after As-Sadat's behavior has wounded the body and heart of the nation. It is hard to accept half solutions that might be accepted in some inter-Arab disputes but cannot be accepted in any case involving the nation's fate. If As-Sadat succeeds in reaching the Arab line, he will drag all of it to the abyss in which he has fallen since his ominous visit and its aftermath.

During his deep involvement with Zionists and Americans, Anwar as-Sadat did not hesitate to use insults and slander against the Arab nation and its rulers. He has been busy distributing titles and epithets, bragging that he is the only civilized practical man among them and that he is "giant" and they are the "dwarfs." The matter went so far that he and the brains behind his regime considered the Arabs and Arabism "trash that will be thrown into the trashcan of history." In the same way he offers himself again to the Arab nation, and surely there are things behind his offer.

Undoubtedly behind As-Sadat's offer is the realization that he and his regime have discovered that all the roads--which they have taken in isolation from the Arab nation--are closed and that insistence on begging for an "important" role in U.S. and Western strategy has not succeeded because the West and the United States have their own plans which note that such a corrupt regime suffering from much strife cannot be a strong agent to play or execute roles.

The reply to As-Sadat's offer must be total rejection enacted via a comprehensive Arab working plan to foil Camp David and its consequences and after clearing the Arab air of untimely conflicts, disputes and wars. Since As-Sadat achieved his complete openness with Israel and gave it all it has asked for with a "civilized open heart," he now wants to penetrate the Arab line, pretending that he has new options after asking for the mediation of American and European friends to restore the harmony between him and the other Arabs.

Will the Arab parties accept "openness" with As-Sadat after all he has done? Will the mediation of European and American "friends" succeed in "opening hearts" to As-Sadat? We do not think so.

BRITISH TEAM TO VISIT FOR AIRCRAFT NEGOTIATIONS

GF261333 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Excerpts] AL-BAYAN learned yesterday that a British team led by a number of senior officials from the arms sales committee at the British Foreign Office will visit the UAE during the next 2 weeks to negotiate the details of the sale of a number of British Hawk aircraft. Reliable sources in London said 35 percent will probably be involved in the deal and are part of a complete deal that constitutes, in addition to these aircraft, equipment and support and training aircraft. The sources did not confirm the total number of aircraft the UAE has requested or whether or not the deal between the two countries has been concluded. One Hawk aircraft will cost 2.8-3 million pounds. According to Western defense experts, the overall deal will cost around 150 million pounds.

PDRY

YSP CENTRAL COMMITTEE BEGINS THIRD SESSION

LD281650 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Apr 81 EA

[Text] The third ordinary session of the YSP Central Committee began at 1000 today in the conference hall of the YSP Central Committee Secretariat. It was chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers.

In its first session this morning the Central Committee considered the political report submitted by the Political Bureau on international and Arab developments and the party's and state's external activities in the period between the two sessions.

The Central Committee heard a detailed analytical report on the international situation, featuring the consolidation of the world revolutionary movement and the multiple forms of the aggressive positions adopted by imperialism and characterized by various types of international terrorism and provocations against national liberation movements and against world security and peace.

The Central Committee also heard an integrated political analysis of the nature of the moves made by the symbols of world imperialism in the region, as well as the meetings and contacts which have taken place with a view to coordinating the positions of the imperialist and reactionary states. In this connection the Central Committee seriously discussed the various provocations by a number of reactionary parties against our country. The Central Committee evaluated the situation in the region in the light of the hostile military movements of imperialism and the stockpiling of weapons in neighboring areas.

In a general discussion of the situation in the Yemen area the Central Committee underscored the importance of continuing peaceful work and contact between the two authorities in the two parts of Yemen and the facilitating of the process of democratic dialogue in the Yemen area so as to provide the prerequisites for the success of the joint institutions in the economic sphere in achieving coordination, cooperation and economic integration between the two parts as a step toward the reunification of the Yemeni homeland.

The Central Committee considered the development of YSP party activity and internal matters in the light of the statistical report and the outcome of the elections of the party's grassroot organizations in 1980. In light of observations made by members emphasis was placed on the creative and diligent application of the Central Committee's call for expansion of the party with a view to linking it with new blood from among the most aware, active and sincere of the workers, peasants, members of cooperatives and intellectuals.

The Central Committee was informed of with developments in the economy through the special report. The Central Committee discussed the results of the activities of the Political Bureau in the economic sphere and the measures adopted in the previous period.

During their discussion the members underscored the importance of paying maximum attention to the implementation of development projects and improvement in the management of the economy in the light of the work of the investigation committees established in the past by the Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers.

The Central Committee resumes its third session this evening when it will consider the second 5-year development plan whose principal guidelines were laid down by the party's extraordinary general congress.

MENA REPORTS ON ABU GHAZALAH'S WASHINGTON TALKS

NC290840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1855 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Washington, 28 Apr (MENA)--Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah today held consultations with several congressmen regarding the situation in the Middle East and the latest developments there. Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah also met with officials in the Pentagon, where he resumed his talks on the armament programs and cooperation between the two countries in this field.

The MENA correspondent in Washington has learned from a responsible source that during his meeting with several congressmen, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah dealt with the dangers facing the area from the Soviet movements and threats. The source said that the congressmen have shared Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah's views in this respect.

Abu Ghazalah yesterday met with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. At the outset of his current visit to the United States he met with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen David Jones to present Egypt's views on the current developments in the Middle East. The MENA correspondent has learned from U.S. and Egyptian sources that the viewpoints were identical and that the U.S. officials showed a great understanding of the Egyptian view outlined by Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah.

Abu Ghazalah's current visit to Washington has given an opportunity to newsmen, particularly to the Israelis, to know directly Egypt's views on the U.S. decision to sell AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia. Abu Ghazalah has affirmed to them that it was natural for Egypt to support the U.S. decision, regarding it a sound one. He explained that Egypt was interested in seeing Saudi Arabia obtain all the arms it requires.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Gen Alexander Haig today confirmed before the Subcommittee on Foreign Aid in the House of Representatives that President Reagan's administration will go ahead with its decision to sell sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia and that the U.S. administration will not allow what happened in Iran to happen in Saudi Arabia. He added that these arms will not fall in the hands of enemies, that the administration will present the transaction to the Congress at the appropriate time and that the deal will include the AWACS planes and sophisticated arms in one package. He noted that the decision was not a new one but was 2 years old and it was discussed during the administration of former President Jimmy Carter.

In his statement before the subcommittee, Alexander Haig stressed that the U.S. decision to sell sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia stems from the U.S. policy toward enabling its friends in the Middle East to defend their borders and territory. He also affirmed that the continuing assistance to U.S. friends [words indistinct] the peace process, particularly in relation to Egypt which, General Haig said, had terminated its relations with the Soviet Union and turned to the West. Haig praised this change which, he said, took place under the wisdom of President Anwar as-Sadat.

Haig added that President as-Sadat had the vision and foresight to work for confronting the Soviet threat and also to work for peace in the area. Haig noted Egypt's important position in the Arab world and its huge strategic and numerical potentials, giving it a special standing in this strategic area.

COMMENTARY VIEWS MIDEAST, SUPERPOWER CONTACTS

NC281607 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Apr 81

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary: "Do They Want To Return to East-West Polarization in the Middle East?"]

[Text] The transfer of power in the United States from the administration of former President Jimmy Carter to the administration of President Ronald Reagan, and the subsequent pause to enable the new administration to examine the U.S. Middle East policy, have resulted in a complete deadlock in the negotiations for the completion of the implementation of the Camp David agreements. This deadlock, which had been anticipated, has been coupled by assertions in various parts of the world that the Camp David process had served its purpose and that the United States itself was searching for an alternative to Camp David or some formula to go hand-in-hand with it.

When U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig came to the area at the beginning of April, it was said that he discussed the expected U.S. role with the officials in the states he visited. When he returned home, however, the U.S. secretary of state pointed out that the officials he met in those states, particularly Jordan and Saudi Arabia, did not provide any practical alternative to Camp David, but the U.S. policy was nevertheless still under preparation, although it has passed the stage of exploration. This does not negate the fact that the Middle East negotiations are still deadlocked.

Along with this deadlock, in exploitation of it or in an attempt to break it, two proposals have appeared. The first was that the EEC should take the initiative to activate the situation and complete certain aspects in such a way as to attract the PLO and other Arab states to the peace process. However, this expected European initiative has not seen the light yet.

The second proposal came from the Soviet Union. Soviet leader Brezhnev called for an international conference to establish peace in the Middle East. However, most of the parties concerned have not responded to this call. The most appropriate comment on the Soviet proposal was that made by the Netherlands foreign minister and current chairman of the EEC [as received] Ministerial Council. He said that the idea of holding an international conference requires long preparations, and bridging the gaps in the various views, to make it possible to achieve a comprehensive settlement and provide the necessary international guarantees for it.

With the continued stalemate in the peace negotiations, some circles have exploited the situation and have embarked upon initiatives of their own to set things in motion again in accordance with their own concepts. The Kuwaiti foreign minister has paid a visit to Moscow at the end of which he welcomed the Soviet call for an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

Libyan ruler Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is also visiting Moscow for the same purpose. He also wants to strengthen his bilateral relations with the Soviet Union. King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat are also expected in the Soviet capital within days. It is logical to assume that the aim of some of these visits is to coordinate with the Soviet policy. It is also logical to assume that some of these visits are meant as maneuver to bring pressure to bear on the United States.

What we must realize well is that the international conference proposal, although attractive to some, is difficult, or rather impossible, to fulfil without prior and complete understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States. Such understanding was not possible in the past and all efforts to reconvene the Geneva conference failed. Such understanding can be achieved now only in the event of an understanding covering the entire world between the two superpowers.

Will the objective now be to return the case of the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian rights to a study of the many outstanding issues between Moscow and Washington, or will the objective be to revive the circle of sharp East-West polarization in the Middle East?

AL-AKHBAR CRITICIZES ISRAEL'S WARNING TO SYRIA

NC291132 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 29 Apr 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the warning which Israel has addressed to Syria, an AL-AKHBAR editorial says: Israel has addressed a warning to Syria regarding the war in Lebanon. In its warning Israel said that it cannot condone Syria's attempts to dominate Lebanon and to kill the Christians there.

The paper notes that this Israeli warning has shifted the fighting between Israel and Syria in Lebanon into an open confrontation between the two. We do not know what Syria will do after this. Will it accept the challenge and mount the wave of confrontation and steadfastness, as it says, or will it content itself with the gains made and stop so as not to let matters get worse? If it accepts this, will Israel accept it and will the evil stop at this point or will Israel exploit the slogan of protecting the Christians to the end to achieve its aims in Lebanon?

Actually, events have not yet given any indication as to where the situation may lead. However, the statement made by an Israeli official about Israel's warning to Syria gives a clear indication of Israel's position and intention. He declared that the failure of international diplomatic efforts to persuade Syria to stop its operations in Lebanon prompted the Israeli Government to stress that it will not take a spectator's stand toward what is happening in Lebanon. This means that Israel will confront Syria until it abides by the cease-fire in Lebanon, and Israel achieves what international diplomatic efforts failed to achieve in ending the fighting.

The paper asks: Is Israel responsible for Lebanon so that it must carry out this responsibility and, on its own, assume the right to protect the Christians, not only in Zahlah but in all of Lebanon? The paper replies: It is not Israel's responsibility, and no one has entrusted it with this responsibility. It is the responsibility of the officials in Lebanon. In Lebanon there is a head of state, a government and a Chamber of Deputies. It is their responsibility and they have the right to decide what is good for their homeland and what is consistent with the situation. When Israel intervenes militarily against Syria and crosses into Lebanese territory and airspace without any consideration for the international situation--and even without permission from the Lebanese Government--this is considered an aggression against Lebanon's independence and a violation of Lebanon's freedom and dignity.

Concluding its article AL-AKHBAR affirms that Syria's responsibility is even more detestable and horrid because it was the one to create this situation from the beginning by its suspect action. It claimed that it would assume responsibility for the Arab Deterrent Forces to protect Lebanon, and it received millions of pounds for a task which it promised to shoulder.

AL-JUMHURIYAH VIEWS AL-QADHDHAFI'S MOSCOW VISIT

NC291022 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 29 Apr 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Today's AL-JUMHURIYAH comments on Al-Qadhdhafi's visit to Moscow. The paper says: Al-Qadhdhafi went to Moscow to receive instructions from the Kremlin leaders and to agree on his role in a new stage of the Soviet plan for the Middle East and Africa.

The paper expresses the opinion that the restoration of normal relations between Egypt and Sudan, Egypt's support of the supply of arms to Saudi Arabia, and Egypt's supply of arms to Iraq must have disturbed Al-Qadhdhafi and the Kremlin leaders and that this was the reason behind the decision to hasten this meeting. The Soviet plan--which Al-Qadhdhafi is implementing--is aimed at isolating Egypt from Sudan, deepening Arab differences, and keeping the Arab states weak so that the Soviet Union can impose its hegemony on them. There is proof of this in that the Soviets were the first to attack the restoration of relations between Egypt and Sudan, the first to oppose the supply of AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia and the first to refuse to supply arms to Iraq, despite the friendship treaty between these two countries.

Despite the terror being spread by Al-Qadhdhafi in the world, he is weak and needs the Soviets to protect him from the Libyan people and all the surrounding states which he mistreated and is afraid they will retaliate in kind. At the same time, the Soviet Union is in need of both Al-Qadhdhafi's money, to strengthen its economy, and Al-Qadhdhafi's role, after the Soviets have lost more than one support center in the area.

Concluding its article, the paper says: Because this is a meeting which is not based on the will of the peoples, this will not last for long, for when Al-Qadhdhafi falls the Soviets' spears will not protect him and they will not shed a single tear for him. They will look for a new agent to complete the task.

MAY INTERVIEWS AS-SADAT ON DEMOCRACY, PARTIES

NC271945 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 27 Apr 81

[First part of President Anwar as-Sadat's dialogue with the newspaper MAY on democracy and parties]

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat, in a long dialogue with the weekly newspaper MAY, spoke about the march of democracy and the experiment of the multiparty system in Egypt. The paper, the organ of the National Democratic Party [NDP], which is led by President as-Sadat, publishes the first part of the dialogue in today's edition. It will publish the remainder of the dialogue in the next editions.

President as-Sadat says that at the beginning of the 23 July revolution he was one of the stanchest supporters of dictatorship and that he could not tolerate the words parties or democracy because of the terror and corruption which the Egyptian people faced at the hands of the king, parties and the British. However, after seeing what happened to Egypt under the totalitarian system, particularly during the period between 1962 and 1965 when he assumed the post of the director of the office of late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir--the prime minister's office--President as-Sadat changed his opinion and chose democracy. The president explains that the difference between yesterday and today is very great and that Egypt has made good progress along the path of freedom.

President as-Sadat discloses that he had submitted his resignation in June 1956 and refused to become a minister, that he had agreed with 'Abd an-Nasir that he would retire from politics in 1969, and that he adopted the stand of a spectator in order to see what was happening in Egypt during this period. However, when he heard about the violations by the committee for the liquidation of feudalism, he decided to abandon the stand of a spectator and see what was happening to the revolution.

President as-Sadat asserts in the dialogue that the experiment of the parties in Egypt needs a total reassessment. The following is the text of the first part of President Anwar as-Sadat's dialogue with the newspaper MAY on democracy and the parties:

Question: Is it possible to evaluate the NDP through its achievements and negative actions in the past period?

Answer: Before speaking about the NDP, I think it is necessary to speak first about the experiment concerning the parties during the period which preceded the 23 July 1952 revolution.

The multiparty system was applied in Egypt during this period. After the 1952 revolution we applied the one-party system. When I assumed power I put an end to this, and we revived the multiparty system. I believe that this experience needs a general reassessment. I want MAY to giv every topic the attention, study and objectivity it deserves in order to give the reader a complete and comprehensive picture of the issues it deals with. The party experiment in Egypt is closely connected with a question: Why did the 23 July revolution take place?

The answer is simple. I answered a part of this question in my interview which was published in the last edition of MAY when I said: The people of Egypt lost confidence in and respect for everyone who practiced politics and party life before the July 1952 revolution. The actions of these politicians, beginning with the king and passing through all the senior and junior party members, made the people lose every respect for them and their arguments.

You will be surprised to know that what happened in Egypt before the revolution occurred to me, as though I was watching a recorded tape, on the occasion of the visit that Prince Philip, the consort of the queen of England, recently paid to Cairo. I remembered how Egypt was ruled from the British high commissioner's house, which was the source of power.

When Prince Philip visited us he came to meet me in Isma'ilia. The itinerary of the visit did not include a second meeting with him. When I learned that the British Embassy had arranged a dinner banquet in honor of Prince Philip and that it addressed invitations to a number of officials, I ordered the embassy to be contacted and informed that I wanted to attend this banquet. The embassy was surprised by my request and there was a lot of confusion among its officials.

The fact is that my going to the British Embassy had more than one meaning. This building was the house of the British high commissioner; it was the era of Cromer, with his haughtiness and hatred for Egypt and the Egyptians. It also witnessed the era of [Lord] Kilearn [British Ambassador Sir Miles Lampson], who humiliated Egypt and its men as nobody else did. True, I did not witness the era of Cromer, but I witnessed the era of [Lord] Kilearn. It was the happiest moment of my life when, as a detainee in the foreigner's prison, I took hold of the AL-MUQAOTAM paper and read its main headline on the front page saying that the British Ambassador [Lord] Kilearn had been transferred from Cairo. You cannot imagine how happy I was when I read this report. I felt as though a terrible nightmare had suddenly been removed from the chest of Egypt and that of its people.

History will record how this Englishman humiliated Egypt, its king, its politicians and its elders. He ruled our country with utmost cruelty, haughtiness and deceit. It is my opinion that Kilearn was far worse than Cromer.

There was a king and many parties in Egypt then at that time. There were prime ministers who were among the titled people.

I saw a recording of that era in my mind while I was attending the ceremony held in honor of Prince Philip at the British Embassy. Britain fully appreciated the situation. This is the first time an Egyptian president visited their embassy. May God Almighty be praised; he changes situations!

A secretary, called the eastern secretary, lived in this very building. This official would sometimes be kind enough to condescend to shake hands with an Egyptian political leader. An uproar would occur. This leader would be delighted and overjoyed! His colleagues would congratulate him, while his competitors' hearts would fill with rancor and jealousy. The next morning, the newspapers would herald to the people the good tidings that this lucky, but envied, political leader is in the good light of the eastern secretary.

At times the British eastern secretary would even become more modest. He would invite an Egyptian political leader to have tea or coffee with him. This leader would feel that he was indeed in luck.

However, if the eastern secretary was infuriated by one of these political leaders, then this would mean that this leader would become trivial and it would become impertive for him to bow out of politics and even out of life itself.

For all these reasons, we came to hate the residence of the high commissioner, which later turned into an embassy but enjoyed the same powers and had the same man, Kilearn. Personally, I could not bear merely to pass outside this residence out of my hatred for its resident. However, circumstances have now changed. I asked to attend the dinner given in honor of Prince Philip. I did not make this request only because the British occupation no longer exists. However, by going to the embassy, I wanted to express on behalf of Egypt and on my own behalf our great gratitude for the recent British stances. I wanted to thank Britain for its understanding of our policy, for the aid it extends to us and for its agreement to meet all our requests, past and present.

President as-Sadat said: We again broach the experience of the multiplicity of parties and the reasons for which we staged the 23 July revolution. I want to tell the youths the full story of this period. I say that the Egyptian people were afflicted with their rulers. For 2,000 years the Egyptian people were ruled by foreigners until the emergence of the July revolution. Throughout this period Egypt was ruled by foreigners, even when Egypt was ruled through the royal family. Even the dynasty of Muhammad 'Ali was foreign and non-Egyptian.

The rulers were foreigners. The foreign occupier also came to increase the magnitude of the tragedy with which they crushed our people throughout the past. A foreigner is not required to love the Egyptian people, respect their will and preserve their dignity. However, we were surprised to find the Egyptian political leaders competing to satisfy the foreigners and the colonialists, at the expense of Egypt and its people and at the expense of Egypt's dignity and sovereignty.

There are numerous and countless examples. Cromer, for instance, humiliated Egypt like no one else had done before. A decision was then issued transferring him when his mission was accomplished. Instead of Cromer being told farewell with curses, farewell ceremonies were given for him and were attended by prominent leaders. Kilearn, who looked down on us and insulted us, trampled upon Egypt's dignity on 4 February 1942 and imposed his country's sway on us. He visited An-Nahhas Pasha at the prime minister's office. They applauded him, carried him shoulder-high and cheered for his long life. Do you now know why we carried out the 23 July 1952 revolution?

The reason is that we are Egyptians of another brand, a brand different from that of the former politicians, of the pashas and of those with title of "his august person." It is impossible that such people have ever represented Egypt and the real Egyptians. They only represented themselves, their interests, their intentions and the humiliation in which they appeared before us. The late Dr Taha Husayn, in his book entitled: "On the margin of biographies," said something which rightly applies to these people. The late Dr Taha Husayn said: "People view you in the image you project of your person. If you humiliate your person, then it appears humiliated, and if you dignify it, it is seen dignified." We were always dignified by Egypt and we also dignified ourselves. When it comes to them, they humiliated themselves before the foreign colonialists and before the king, who humiliated and belittled them.

Question: Did the 23 July revolution emerge without a political, popular organization?

Answer: The 23 July revolution is unique in that it was the first revolution to rise without having a popular organization. Why? Because we staged our revolution as an expression of the people's will.

The Egyptian people had then expressed their opinion and pinpointed their stance on the corrupt political regime, which they saw with their own eyes. The Egyptian people at that time ceased respecting the leaders, the parties and party rancor.

Patriotic parties existed. However, they were small parties unable to exercise any influence or to compete with the large parties, which had become well versed in corruption and which had practiced all the arts of corrupting.

The multiplicity of parties began in Egypt with the national party prior to the upsurge of the 1919 revolution. In the wake of this revolution, Sa'd Zaghlul became the most powerful leader. The people confided in Sa'd Zaghlul and rallied around him to the extent that some people said: "We would rather have an occupation at the hand of Sa'd than independence at the hand of 'Ali." Naturally, this is a kind of extremism which is neither required nor accepted. Since that time, the experience of the parties has been differences which would end, and then for the obnoxious and despicable competition to begin again. At one phase this competition reached the extent of a personality cult and of striking at any other competing leader or party. The reason is that the objective was to accede to power and to the government. However, nobody thought of patriotic objectives or of the people's demands and rights. They took from the civilized societies the idea of multiparties, but they only took the name and forgot the complete experiment of these civilized societies. There are many parties in Britain and in the United States, and this means many programs. The ultimate aim of all these programs is the prosperity of the citizen. But here the multiparty system was considered the means for winning the title of his excellency the prime minister and his excellency the minister. They then progressed and the new outstanding title became his august person. The entire process was a struggle for power, posts and influence. We never heard of programs for the development of the country, the realization of prosperity for the citizens or for solving their problems and providing their needs. The competition was only for seats, not programs.

Our people felt all of this and rose against it. What is characteristic about the Egyptian people is that they do not forget; they remember everything they see. When the actions of some went beyond the limit, the people could no longer bear their actions and they expressed their annoyance and disgust. The Cairo fire in January 1952 was an expression of the people's rejection of what they were seeing and hearing.

When the 23 July revolution broke out, all the people rallied around it. Those who hated the revolution, tried to defame it and described it as a military coup, did not dare to deny the popularity of the revolution. They were compelled to admit that it was a military coup that was supported by the people. The reason was that all the people sided with the revolution since the first moment of its proclamation, despite the fact that there was no advanced popular organization for the revolution.

The 23 July revolution came to correct the revolution of Al-'Urabi and the 1919 revolution. It also came to correct an epoch filled with tragedies that were caused by political and party corruption. Soon after the outbreak of the revolution and its success, we were supposed to rid the country of this corruption. We were supposed to abolish the existing parties and call for the formation of new parties. However, the revolution did not abolish the existing parties or demand the formation of new ones. All the revolution did was to officially ask the existing parties to purge their ranks. The 23 July revolution was sincere in its advice and we expected the parties to cooperate with us and immediately purge their ranks, particularly because we in the revolution council intended to hand over the country to the parties after being assured that they were sound and clean.

This decision by the Revolution Command Council was not an easy one. On the contrary, the council faced the first sharp difference among its members on how Egypt should be ruled. The council was divided: The overwhelming majority, including myself, voted for a dictatorship. Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir alone voted against a dictatorship. When 'Abd an-Nasir threatened to resign and return to army service because of the insistence of the majority on the adoption of a dictatorship for the success of the revolution, we were compelled to go along with 'Abd an-Nasir's opinion and adopt democracy, while leaving the responsibility of ruling to the existing parties on the condition that they purge their ranks of those who were corrupt.

We were surprised by something incredible. We were surprised to see the corrupt party members purging their parties and getting rid of their rivals. We waited for the parties to purge themselves of their corrupt leadership. We were surprised to see this corrupt leadership purging others, while keeping for themselves the leading posts and positions in the parties.

This was not the only comedy: We asked the parties to agree to limit the ownership of agricultural land, but they refused and advised the imposition of progressive taxes. We tried in vain to persuade the party leaders that we were not seeking extra revenues for the state, but that a limitation on the ownership of agricultural land was one of the most important principles of the 23 July revolution, which is a social revolution seeking to save the peasant from the tyranny of the landlord. We advocated the liberation of the farmers from feudalism and the feudalists, but the parties rejected this principle.

Even the prime minister, whom the revolution had chosen after it was carried out, the late 'Ali Mahir, did not agree with us on the law limiting ownership. We were compelled to relieve him and we agreed to form a new cabinet under the premiership of Maj Gen Muhammad Najib. A very limited number of revolution officers joined his cabinet. The assumption of power was not our object behind the 23 July revolution. It is no secret that at the meeting of the Revolution Command Council on 27 July 1952, 1 day after the departure of King Faruq, we rose against a proposal that the Revolution Command Council should assume the rule of the country.

It was not our goal to rule the country and we did not care for political posts. We carried out our revolution when we had no programs and represented no parties. We did not contemplate forming a party. All we knew was that the revolution will be violently resisted by the British and the king and their associates. We expected bitter and bloody armed battles. This was all that we prepared for and expected. The revolution took place and we were surprised by its quick success. We were more surprised by the neutral stand that the British adopted and by the king's agreement to abdicate the throne and also by the parties quick welcome and their attempt to win our favor.

We showed understanding and asked the parties to purge their ranks and then assume the rule of the country in order to fulfill the demands of the people, mainly the issuance of a law limiting ownership. We have seen how the parties tried to play games with us. The corrupt assumed the process of purging their parties and they rejected the law limiting the ownership of agricultural land. This was not all: They tried to plot against us by encouraging officers to carry out a coup against us. We foiled the plot in December 1952. We were then compelled to make the decision, which should have been taken on the first day of the outbreak of the revolution and its success. We decided to abolish the parties; the decision came 6 months late.

The president adds: On 16 January 1953, we made a decision to abolish the parties for a 3-year interim period, ending in January 1956. We assumed power during the interim period. We fulfilled our promise to the people in 1956 and we issued the first provisional constitution. However, we did not hold elections because of the 1956 battle against Israel, Britain and France. The elections were held in 1957 after the battle and the Parliament was established in accordance with the provisional constitution.

This was what the revolution did in a few years, which could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Come, let us examine what the United States did when it became a state for the first time. The United States consisted of only 13 states after the American people won their independence with their victory over Britain. The American people remained without parties for 12 consecutive years, during which three presidents ruled. The Congress did not approve the formation of parties or agree on their number throughout these years.

This could appear strange when related to a people who sanctify and defend democracy and rally around their political parties. But what really calls for wonder is that the American people believed that it was very dangerous to permit the formation of many parties immediately after the country attained its independence and became an independent sovereign state. The Americans believed that the formation of parties with the establishment of the new state would shatter the unity of the states and create differences that the American people could do without. Our surprise might increase if we return to the justifications that the American people gave for the postponement of the formation of parties in their country approximately 200 years ago. We would find that the most important justifications were the maintaining of national unity and social peace.

As my people have noticed, on every occasion I draw attention to the need for safeguarding Egyptian national unity and social peace. This was the same thing that the American people were keen on 200 years ago because of their fear for their country following its establishment as a new independent state. The American people agreed to safeguard their national unity and social peace. They refused to allow the parties to form lest the states--which were only 13 then and are 50 now--should disintegrate, and the United States remained without parties for 12 whole years.

This was what happened in a big state like the United States. But here in Egypt, the small state, the revolution needed only 3 years from the date it took place until 1956 as a period for transition from a dark era polluted by party corruption--which made the people lose confidence in all their parties and leaderships--to an era when the revolution tried to make an era of peace, unity and development. Even this short period was interspersed by political organizational activities that filled the vacuum that could have been created in the absence of party and political activities. We established the Liberation Organization; this popular organization was essential to consolidate the revolution.

It was neither possible nor logical for us to contemplate the formation of many parties, especially after all we knew about the previous parties and what their leadership tried to do to us and to the revolution during the 6 months after it took place. It was very natural to establish the one-organization or what we term the one-party system as a new experiment, which might succeed or fail, but which must be adopted after we renounced the previous multiparty experiment.

This was the reason for the establishment of the Liberation Organization, which later came to be known as the National Union. The National Union was reorganized until it was replaced by the Socialist Union. What happened to the National Union also happened to the Socialist Union. Administrative and other flaws emerged that made us reorganize the Socialist Union for the second time, hoping to get rid of its negative aspects and pitfalls. All these popular political organizations, which were established during the years of the revolution, could be named as the one-party system. It is a system that is completely different from the multiparty system we are applying now.

Question: Why did you restore the multiparty system, which you rejected in the past? All your political activities, which exposed you to many problems and dangers before the revolution, aimed primarily at abolishing the parties after the people renounced them.

Answer: The background I gave at the beginning of this talk was necessary to reach the point you have just asked me about. As I have told you, I was one of the staunchest supporters of a dictatorship. I expressed this opinion at the Revolution Command Council's meeting on 27 July 1952. The other council members agreed with me with the exception of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, who insisted on democracy. This is not all. The corruption and terrorism and the political party terrorism I saw in the past made me call for installing the gallows at the opera square in order to get rid of all those who corrupted our life, poisoned our principles and sucked the blood of our people.

I advocated a dictatorship at the time in order to strike at the terrorism that we were confronted with as a people and revolution. I inclined toward utmost extremism in this regard. I could not bear hearing the words parties or democracy; I completely renounced these two words.

The years passed and the revolution succeeded. We eliminated the political party corruption and the corrupt leaders disappeared from the scene: Some of them died, some disappeared and some got lost and became powerless. What is more important is that the people do not remember those parties any more. They have forgotten what they suffered during the years of black rule by those parties.

As for myself, personally, I have chosen my own path. I was a member of the Revolution Command Council since the revolution took place in 1952 and until 1956, when we agreed to dissolve the council. I have since refused to assume any government post. When Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir was elected as the president of the republic in June 1956, I submitted my resignation and told him: I do not wish to serve as a minister, for the post, in my opinion, is merely that of a director of employees responsible for the promotion, transfer and appointment of officials. I am not fit for this job. Indeed, I stayed away from government posts until I became a member of the National Assembly in 1957. The deputies elected me as the assembly's deputy speaker. Al-Baghdadi was the speaker. I agreed to become the People's Assembly deputy speaker because the post entailed political action connected with the masses' activities. It was not a government post.

The unity between Egypt and Syria was proclaimed in 1958. I was elected speaker of the United Assembly, which included the Syrian Chamber of Deputies and the Egyptian National Assembly. I held the post for about 18 months. Then the secession occurred and the assembly was dissolved. Subsequently, in Egypt we remained without a National Assembly until 1964. When the new assembly was formed in 1964, I was chosen as its speaker.

I recall that I told Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir: Jamal, I accept the post as speaker of the assembly at your request, but on one condition--that the term of this assembly expires in 1969. So I decided to retire at the end of the term because I was exhausted. The reason for that might have been the fact that I was different from the other embers of the Revolution Command Council. While you worked in the Armed Forces and sat in your offices, I was discharged from the army and lived intermittently in detention camps. I experienced the pain of hunger and knew what deprivation meant. I worked at many jobs to support myself and my family. In fact, I began to feel tired and exhausted. In 1969, God willing, I will be 50 years old. I believed that I had done enough, for I had achieved all I had wished for. I took part in the revolution and [words indistinct]. I became a member of the Revolution Command Council. This in itself was the highest post I coveted.

Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir replied: When the time comes, God will solve this. I said: No, Jamal. I have actually decided to retire at the end of the assembly's term in 1969. If I am destined to go on living, I would go to Mit Abu al-Kawm village and sit on a stone bench outdoors. Whenever you feel in need of a rest, you should visit me there and spend the weekend with me. We will sit together, laugh and pass the time as usual. Do you agree, Jamal? Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir agreed. [passage indistinct]

In democratic communities, the governments seek whatever satisfies the citizens and solves their problems. However, under the totalitarian system, the rulers take measures to strike back at rebellion, and prisons and detention camps are open to receive the rebels on the accusation of representing "the counterrevolution."

Under the slogan of fighting for the counterrevolution, Egypt witnessed suppression and pressure, measures which could neither be accepted nor tolerated. Many were the counter-revolutions against which we waged fierce wars. When the session took place in 1961, those whose interests were harmed by the revolution, and those who had been tried or whose property had been limited, rejoiced over the secession and offered refreshments. Their behavior amounted to "a counterrevolution" and immediately extraordinary measures were adopted to suppress them. The property of those under suspicion of having any connection with the counterrevolution was put under custodianship. These measures increased and varied at the beginning of 1965. We heard of a committee set up to liquidate feudalism. It was then said that landowners and lackeys of the counterrevolution showed their fangs and that they should be struck at with an iron fist. Under this goal, everything was permissible. There was no consideration for values, principles, humanity or mercy.

You may be surprised to know that during that period I was watching what was happening from a distance, because I was not holding any executive post in the government. It is not in my nature to get involved in a struggle for power, unlike others who held posts and were struggling among themselves for more power and more authority. I was not one of them, and thus had no reason to fight for power. I watched what was happening before me and kept it in the back of my mind until an incident occurred--on a Thursday. I arrived at Mit Abu al-Kawm. The resolutions of the Feudal Liquidation Committee meetings were announced every Thursday. On that day every citizen in Egypt would wait in fear that his name was mentioned on the weekly liquidation list. As usual, I read the daily papers only in the evening and that is why I did not read the new list that day.

One of my acquaintances, an agricultural engineer and a member of the Arab Socialist Union, visited me in Mit Abu al-Kawm. He asked me: What is your opinion of the Feudal Liquidation Committee resolution published today? I told him that I had not read the newspapers yet. He said: Please, read it now, because the resolution involves the Feudal Liquidation Committee in the District of Tala. He did not wait for me to ask for the papers, he produced the newspaper out of his pocket and handed it to me.

As I started reading the paper I was surprised to read the names of people in the Tala District on whose land sequestration had been imposed because all of them were supporters of the revolution and the regime and were working in popular organizations. Not only they were our supporters but also their sons. We enrolled them in the military college, the police college, universities and institutes. We knew them one by one and trusted their loyalty to the revolution and its aims. What is more important is that the richest among them did not own more than a few feddans and that none of them had anything to do with feudalism or feudalists.

As a matter of fact, I was greatly dismayed because I did not imagine things could reach this point. I did not expect the Feudal Liquidation Committee to make this ugly mistake. So, I had to act and as soon as possible. Immediately, I got into my car and returned to Cairo and headed toward 'Abd an-Nasir's house in Manshiyat al-Bakri. I used to meet with him without advance notice. I entered Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's house and told him the entire story. Jamal said: Anwar, this is a disaster. Go quickly and tell 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amir. I told him: The graveness is that all that we used to hear about the excesses of the Feudal Liquidation Committee has some truth to it as has become clear. Those I am telling you about, from the District of Tala, on whose land they imposed sequestration, are known to me personally, every one. I also know the extent of their loyalty to their country and revolution. How could they possibly be punished for no crime or reason. I looked at Jamal's face and waited for his opinion.

TAHA RAMADAN PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO BULGARIA

For Sofia BTA reports on official talks held during the visit to Bulgaria by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, see page C 4 of the 28 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

RAMADAN RETURNS FROM EAST EUROPE; MAKES STATEMENT

JN251929 Baghdad INA in English 1855 GMT 25 Apr 81

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA)--Revolution Command Council member and first deputy premier, Taha Yasin Ramadan, returned here tonight in conclusion of a four-day visit to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

In a statement to INA, Mr Ramadan said that he discussed with officials in both countries means of developing bilateral relations. He added that good results were reached to develop relations between Iraq and the two friendly countries.

Mr Ramadan pointed out that he felt from officials in the two countries big understanding for the nature of conflict with the racist Persian enemy and welcome to Iraq's principled stances and its continued preparedness to solve the conflict by peaceful means which will secure Iraq's rights and sovereignty over its territories and waters.

He said that several agreements for economic, industrial, agricultural and technical cooperation were reached with officials in the two countries and they will take their way for implementation.

Two official invitations were extended to Czech prime minister, Lubomir Strougal, and Bulgarian first deputy premier, Todor Bozhinov, to visit Iraq, Mr Ramadan added. The two invitations were accepted and they will be paid in the near future, he concluded.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 320

JN281727 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Communique No 320 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 28 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With unique heroism and great capability, the brave soldiers of Saddam's Qadisiyah continue to destroy and crush the forces of the arrogant racist Persians in the operations sectors. The following are the results of the military activities carried out yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A force belonging to our advanced units raided enemy positions in the Nowsud region and hit it with all weapons, killing 34. It also pounded charlatan Khomeyni guard concentrations in the same region, killing 63 and wounding a large number.
B. Our capable forces continued to pound and destroy the enemy forces in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. They also continued their successful advance to destroy the groups and pockets of the retreating enemy forces, inflicting massive losses in lives and equipment on them. The losses were so big that it was not possible to count them by the time this statement was prepared. The details will be given in a subsequent communique. An enemy helicopter was downed in the same region.
C. Five were killed and one ammunition stockpile was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
D. One was killed and two infantry positions were destroyed in the Mehran region.
E. Five were killed in the Dezful region.
F. One of our advance units clashed with an enemy force in the Shush region. It pounded it strongly with all weapons and forced it to retreat after having sustained 58 killed and 2 rocket launchers destroyed. The unit also destroyed one ammunition stockpile in the same region.

G. Four were killed and one field gun, one vehicle and one ammunition stockpile were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
H. Our units strongly hit with all weapons enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan region, killing 11 and destroying 4 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 7 field guns, 6 vehucles--2 of which were carrying ammunition--1 observation post and 4 ammunition stockpiles.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 181 killed, 6 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 8 field guns of various calibers, 7 vehicles, 2 rocket launchers, 1 observation post, 7 ammunition stockpiles and 1 helicopter.

II. Our air force planes carried out five raids against enemy concentrations and columns in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb regions today, scoring direct hits. Our planes returned safely to base.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle and one excavator were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 April 1981

VICE PRESIDENT VIEWS ISRAEL, WAR WITH IRAN

JN281743 Baghdad INA in English 1710 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (INA)--A joint political committee from Iraq and Argentina together with another economic and educational committee started here today work to conclude several agreements between the two countries. Iraq's vice-president, Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, who arrived here yesterday for a several days visit to Argentina said during a dinner party that Iraq was keen to further develop the existing good relations between the two countries.

Mr Ma'ruf said the Zionist danger was still threatening the Arab region's security and there would be no just and lasting peace without the unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist enemy from all the occupied Arab lands and the restoration of rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

On the Iraq-Iran war, vice-president Ma'ruf said Iraq was not responsible for the current situation between the two countries. Iran has adopted a policy of aggression and expansion and violated all the articles that constituted the 1975 agreement. He pointed out that Iraq, facing such policy, was compelled to push back the Iranian Armed Forces to protect Iraqi cities and towns.

Mr Ma'ruf reiterated Iraq's readiness to hold a cease-fire and direct negotiations, or even through a third party to achieve an honourable and just peace which guarantees Iraq's rights and sovereignty. He stressed on the fact that Iraq has no territorial claims in Iran.

INFORMATION MINISTER EXPLAINS STAND ON MIDEAST

JN281755 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah received at his office today a visiting delegation from the French National Administration Institute. The French ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Abu 'Awdah spoke about the various aspects of the Palestinian cause, Jordan's relations with the PLO and the Jordanian vision of the means to bring about a just and durable peaceful settlement in the area. The information minister also explained to the delegation's members Israel's policy, which hinders the achievement of such a just settlement because of its announced political stands and its continued measures in the occupied territories.

Abu 'Awdah also outlined the Jordanian stand on the various opinions raised in the Middle East area. He reiterated that Jordan's stand is based on the belief that the area should be kept away from the policy of axes. He also explained the relations between this belief and the attempts to reach a just solution of the Palestinian people's cause, which is considered as the key to the issue of peace in the entire region. He stressed that any settlement should depend on the principles of Israel's complete withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the city of Jerusalem; recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and their right to establish their independent state on their national soil of Palestine; and a guarantee of the security of the area's states.

AMMAN REPORTS CORRUPTION SCANDAL IN SYRIA

JN271956 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Apr 81

[Text] Damascus--A new scandal has been unveiled in Syria. The star of this scandal is Col Rif'at al-Asad, the brother of President Hafiz al-Asad. The details of this scandal indicate that Col Rif'at al-Asad has seized a sum of money amounting to $10 million in Syrian pounds were printed abroad and shipped to Syria and were destined for the Syrian central bank. Col Rif'at al-Asad seized this money before it reached the bank.

This new scandal has led to the widening of the rift between President Hafiz al-Asad and his brother, Col Rif'at al-Asad. Observers in Damascus believe that President al-Asad seems to be unable to put an end to his brother's behavior because Colonel Rif'at is in control of the biggest striking force in Syria, namely, the defense squads, which were originally established to protect the sectarian regime of President Hafiz al-Asad.

KHADDAM, GOVERNMENT, FACTION LEADERS HOLD TALKS

Khaddam Statement

NC281851 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam answered journalists' questions before the national detente consultations began at the presidential palace.

On the atmosphere in which the practical steps of the detente consultations will begin, Minister Khaddam said:

[Begin recording] As a result of the contacts which have taken place between their excellencies President Hafiz al-Asad and President Ilyas Sarkis, it was agreed that the war in Lebanon and the Lebanese crisis must end, because this will be in the interest of Lebanon and the Arab nation. Consequently, agreement was reached on a series of practical steps that will bring about an end to the crisis.

During my meeting with his excellency the president today, we reviewed the current situation and the means to accomplish these steps. A meeting was then held with speaker Kamil al-As'ad. It is natural that when contacts begin in an effort to end the current situation and to find out the views of the various parties on how to tackle the current crisis, that the discussions should begin with the representative of the legislative authority, Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. After a while, a meeting will be held with representatives of the Lebanese parties.

We hope that all the parties will comprehend the urgent national importance of achieving national detente and ending this crisis, so that Lebanon will regain its strength and its national role and so that the Lebanese will be able to put these tragedies they are experiencing behind them.

[Question]: What is your visualization for ending the war in Lebanon?

[Answer]: My visualization is that the crisis in Lebanon will be ended by national detente and that all the parties should agree that their affiliation should be with the homeland and that force and the use of arms will only lead to more sufferings and will not attain any hopes.

[Question]: Do you favor a roundtable meeting of the Lebanese parties in the presidential palace for actually starting detente talks?

[Answer]: This or that form is not important. What is important is that all have the conviction that their interest as parties and their interest as citizens lie in their being with their country, and that they should end this abnormal situation they have been living in for a number of years. [end recording]

Talks, Sham'un Statement

NC281915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] The most significant event today was the arrival of Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam at the presidential palace and the start of the first round of the Lebanese-Syrian discussions at 1300. The meeting was attended on the Lebanese side by President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Butrus and Arab Deterrent Forces Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Katib.

At 1400, President Sarkis invited the guest of Lebanon and those present to lunch with him. Speaker of the chamber of deputies Kamil al-As'ad, who arrived at the palace at 1410, joined them a few minutes later.

President Sarkis began his conciliation consultations with the Lebanese sides at 1600. He received former President Camille Sham'un at 1630 in the presence of Prime Minister al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Butrus and Minister Khaddam. The meeting lasted until 1745 after which Sham'un said:

[Begin recording] We held a round of talks during which we reviewed the history of the relations between Lebanon and Syria. We also reviewed the recent painful events, that are known to everyone. As a result of this discussion, which lasted for more than an hour, I can say that I am cautiously optimistic. It is not important that we should have reviewed matters or that we should have drawn the points of view closer. There are measures which must be fully implemented in order that we may say that we are proceeding with firm strides toward full understanding.

[Question] May we know these measures, Mr President?

[Answer] They relate to all pending issues between the two countries, which have been generated by the circumstances of the past 3 or 4 years and by the recent incidents; all this must be tackled.

What is important is that if there is any understanding, it must be on basic matters. The Syrians want sovereignty, independence and dignity for their country and they want to safeguard their vital interests. We in Lebanon also want sovereignty, independence and dignity and also want to safeguard our vital rights in every sense of the word.

Therefore, when I say that I am cautiously optimistic, this does not mean that I am not optimistic but that I am waiting to see the results and the application of what will be agreed upon at the next meetings, particularly those which will be held between the president of the republic and the prime minister. When this is done, we could say that we have reached the state which we desire: The country has not only regained its (?sovereignty) and independence but also its full health. [end recording]

Al-Jumayyil Statement

NC282055 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT Apr 81

[Excerpt] Following a 2-hour meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in the presence of President Ilyas Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq Al-Wazzan, Pierre al-Jumayyil made a statement at the presidential palace in which he said that he was satisfied and optimistic. He hoped that his satisfaction and optimism are pragmatic, because following the many unfulfilled promises that were made to Lebanon during the past 6 years the atmosphere of optimism this time might be real.

He added: We have ascertained this time that matters would progress in a practical manner, particularly after this meeting which I consider serious, real and sincere. I hope I am not wrong.

The Phalangist leader added that the dialogue which took place today was a Syrian-Lebanese dialogue and not a Syrian-Phalangists, dialogue because we, the Phalangists, are a party and the person speaking in the name of Lebanon is the president of the republic.

ISRAELIS ATTACK SYRIAN HELICOPTERS, POSITION

NC281742 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Excerpts] While President Sarkis, Minister Khaddam, and other functionaries were holding consultations, Israeli Phantoms shot down two Syrian helicopters, one of them at noon in Hawsh al-Ghanam near Riyaq and the other at 1820 over the hills extending from Zahlah to Sannin.

Israeli planes had flown over Zahlah and came from the east toward the Sannin peaks and, from very high altitudes, began bombing the perimeter of the French redoubt and the hills overlooking Zahlah. The Israeli planes then flew again over Al-Biqa', crossing over Zahlah in the direction of Sannin. They were met by heavy antiaircraft fire but continued flying over Jurud Qa' ar-Rim, (Upper Ad-Dawq) and Harqat up to Sannin, and bombed the perimeter of the French redoubt again.

AL-WAZZAN CRITICIZES SHELLING, ISRAELI ACTION

NC281943 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has expressed his strong condemnation and pain over the result of the shelling to which the mufti's office, the religious courts and Al-Azhar were subjected to yesterday.

The prime minister pointed out that the Israeli statements, the continued Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon and the Sannin area and Israel's use of its aircraft indicate the extent of its annoyance with the moves that are taking place in the Lebanese arena today toward detente among all parties. The prime minister has sent the director of protocol and public relations at the premiership, 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Shaykhan to the mufti's office to inspect the damage.

INFORMATION, TOURISM MINISTERS DENOUNCE ISRAEL

NC282150 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Information Minister Michel Iddih made the following statement tonight:

The statements which some Israeli leaders have issued to justify their attacks today and their claim that they were interfering in the interests of the Christians do not deceive any of the Lebanese. It is no coincidence that these statements were made today when Lebanon began the march of the serious action to achieve national accord, which is the only guarantee for the Lebanese with all their factions and communities. Undoubtedly, the aim of these statements is to hinder this march.

Minister Iddih added: Lebanon considers with deep concern these statements which are not divorced from the known Israeli stands since the beginning of the incidents in Lebanon, which aim at undermining the formula of coexistence among the Lebanese families.

Tourism Minister Marwan Hamadah said the following tonight: It is clear that Israel is not pleased that Lebanon should finally emerge from the whirlpool of violence to the national accord and rally around the legitimate government through cooperation with sister Syria. Hamadah added: When Israel began losing the ability to sow internal sedition, it embarked on overt aggression in the south and Al-Biqa' in an attempt to prevent Lebanon from reaching the shore of safety.

In conclusion, Hamadah said: The correct answer to the new plot, which is directed against the good efforts that are being exerted in B'Abda today, is more stubborn adherence to the national accord.

ZAHLAH SHELLING CONTINUES; MINISTERS TO REGION

NC281806 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Have the guns in Beirut and its suburbs gone silent because they are near B'Abda Palace, but did not go silent in Zahlah because they are near Damascus [word indistinct]? This question is raised by the almost complete quiet in the capital and the violent escalation in the capital of Al-Biqa', where the Syrian shelling of Hawsh al-Umara' lasted for several hours, killing 12 and wounding 46.

According to the latest reports from Zahlah, Hawsh al-Umara' township is being subjected now to a sweeping destruction by Syrian artillery fire and the house of Minister al-Hirawi has been completely destroyed.

Zahlah Ministers

NC281955 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Following this evening's intensive shelling of Hawsh al-Umara', Ministers Joseph Skaf and Ilyas al-Hirawi informed the prime minister that they are determined to resign because it was impossible for them to represent a ruined town. Minister Joseph Abu Khatir contacted the two Zahlah ministers expressing his solidarity with them.

Following this, Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam contacted Col Muhammad Ghanim and ordered him to stop the shelling of Zahlah. It has not yet been known if the resignation, which is connected with the cease-fire, will be submitted in writing or whether the three Zahlah ministers will withdraw it. According to the reports from Zahlah, the shelling of Hawsh al-Umara' stopped at about 1900 today, while sniping on the Zahlah quarters from (Tallat Humaydah) and Al-Hammar area is continuing.

RIVAL ARMED GROUPS REPORTEDLY CLASH IN TRIPOLI

NC290705 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] Armed clashes broke out in Al-Qubbah area in Tripoli between the ('Ali 'Id) Group, the Confrontation Front and armed elements of Squad 17 of the Fatah security. Two men of the ('Ali 'Id) Group, (Muhmud Tamir) and ('Ali al-Hasan) were killed and two Fatah elements wounded. Consequently, a tense atmosphere prevailed in Tripoli, particularly in Bab at-Tabbanah where local and alien armed groups were alerted. It was later reported that the reason for the clashes was that the Confrontation Front has been levying protection money in a certain street in Al-Qubbah under Fatah control.

HADDAD COMMENTS ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS 29 APR

NC290909 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Comments by free Lebanon Commander Major Haddad--read by announcer]

[Text] 1. I say to 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam that the sole demand of the Lebanese is the withdrawal of the Syrian occupation forces from Le Banon. We are confident that we shall resolve our problems by ourselves within less than 24 hours. Let Khaddam understand that we shall not allow Syria to annex the Al-Biqa' region or 1 inch of Lebanon. What happened yesterday was just an indication that we shall not be alone in confronting Syria should it insist on carrying out its bad intentions. Furthermore, what happened yesterday destroys Syria's argument that it is working to protect the terrorist resistance in Lebanon at a time when Syria is unable to protect itself and maintain its self-respect. In view of this bitter fact, we advise Khaddam to withdraw his forces from Lebanon quickly before it is too late and before they are annihilated and buried.

2. On behalf of those I represent I thank the State of Israel and its people for what they have provided and are providing as a service to Lebanon in general and to the Christians in particular. I also call on the whole Christian world to provide aid to Israel to remain a bastion of democracy and a protector of human rights in the Middle East.

3. We promise the Lebanese that we shall act to amend the Lebanese Constitution to gradually direct it toward secularism to safeguard the rights of all the Lebanese, taking into consideration loyalty to the homeland first and competence second.

On this occasion we grant the Lebanese (?fighters) who work on the side of the terrorists and the Syrian occupation forces a final golden opportunity to give up their partisanship and return to the straight Lebanese rank before it is too late.

4. Ahmad Jibril [PFLP General Command leader] has said in one of his speeches that there is no longer a place for the terrorists in Sidon and Shatila where they are facing a useless war of attrition on the sands of Sidon and that the time has come for them to move to their natural place in Jordan. This is what Ahmad Jibril has said. We say that this is the best thing a terrorist has said until now. We hope that the terrorists will hear this realistic statement and leave Lebanon quickly. If they could not enter Jordan now, they can exercise their terrorist activity from Syria for the time being.

5. A word of appreciation and admiration must be said to the members of the Lebanese Army who are carrying out their correct national duty by confronting the Syrian occupier and his supporters. We also consider their martyrs as our martyrs. At the same time, we invite all the military men who are not taking part in the battle of honor to join their comrades in eastern Beirut and the mountains or join the Free Lebanon Army. Whoever does not respond to this call will be considered a traitor of the homeland by us and we shall ultimately bring him to account on this basis. May you live long and long live Lebanon, sovereign and independent!

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN ON ISRAELI PLANE ATTACKS

JN281932 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1855 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Statement on 28 April by "official" Syrian spokesman--read by announcer]

[Text] This afternoon, Israeli planes intercepted two Syrian helicopters in Lebanon while they were transporting food supplies. The helicopters were hit by the Israeli planes.

This serious Israeli escalation in Lebanon comes in the wake of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's speech at the Syrian Peasant Federation's Fifth Conference in which he stressed the need to continue efforts to achieve Lebanese national reconciliation. It also comes in the wake of the Lebanese foreign minister's visit to Damascus and the agreement that the Syrian foreign minister would leave for Lebanon to begin this national reconciliation with the cooperation of the legitimate Lebanese authorities, headed by his excellency the Lebanese president and the Lebanese prime minister.

This took place after the Syrian foreign minister arrived in Ba'abda, after contacts with the Lebanese parties began, after encouraging signs had appeared and after satisfaction had been shown by the Lebanese parties. After all this, and in an overt Israeli attempt to hamper the efforts that are being exerted as well as to maintain the fighting in Lebanon--nay, in order to expand this fighting and exacerbate it among the various Lebanese parties so that Israel will be able to continue exploiting the Lebanese situation at the expense of the Lebanese people's interests--after all this, the Israeli planes this afternoon intercepted and hit two Syrian helicopters that were carrying food supplies. The Israeli planes also strafed with machineguns some of our military positions in Lebanon. These positions, however, suffered no losses and replied to the Israeli planes' fire.

While alerting the Lebanese citizens and all the Arabs to the manner in which Israel is exploiting the situation in Lebanon and its desperate attempts to prevent Lebanon from emerging from its crisis, Syria also alerts international public opinion to the seriousness of this Israeli role and holds the Israeli Government responsible for this intervention and for all its consequences.

Syria reiterates that it will decisively confront any Israeli interventions of this kind and will simultaneously continue the efforts it has begun to achieve Lebanese national reconciliation.

Israel and all those who urge it will be mistaken if they believe that such actions can divert Syria from its course by a hair's breath.

VOL REPORTS CLASHES AMONG VARIOUS MUSLIM SECTS

NC281424 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Scores of people have been killed or wounded and a large number of houses and cars destroyed in clashes between Sunnites and 'Alawites in major Syrian towns.

Information received by us indicates that extreme tension prevailed in Aleppo last Sunday, particularly in the quarters of Al-Kallasah and Bab an-Nayrab, where members of the Muslim Brotherhood aided by the inhabitants burned three cars belonging to the Syrian intelligence department, killing all their occupants.

As a result, clashes broke out between elements of the intelligence department and the Muslim Brotherhood involving handgrenades and machineguns. In addition, an Armenian officer named (Caspar) and three intelligence elements were killed in (Mahallat as-Sulaymaniyah).

Scores of people have been killed, hundreds wounded and a number of stores destroyed in Hamah during clashes between the Syrian forces and the Muslim Brotherhood. The town is still isolated and its main road has been closed since last Friday.

The atmosphere remains tense in Idlib Governorate, the town of As-Salamiyah, (Sahl al-Ghab) and (Jisr Ash-Shaghur) because of the clashes that break out repeatedly between the 'Alawites and Sunnites.

It has been noted that the Syrian popular army is in a state of general alert and that it is treating the populace badly. One of its victims has been the driver of a Lebanese cold storage truck who was stopped and shot in the center of Hamah for belonging to a certain sect.

Roadblocks have been seen in Homs and its suburbs and helicopters have been deployed in order to surround fixed positions.

Meanwhile, the inhabitants in Homs, Hamah, Aleppo and Damascus are insisting on knowing the fate of their sons in the military. News about them was stopped after they were taken to Lebanon.

[The same radio carried a report at 1715 GMT on 28 April noting: "According to the latest reports received by us, a big explosion occurred today near the radio and television building in Damascus. There have been no reports yet about the damage caused by the explosion, but the streets of Damascus, where the popular army with its various types of weapons is deployed, lives in a state of anxiety and tension."]

PEACE COUNCIL OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM HAVANA

JN290738 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Excerpts] The delegation of the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Syria headed by Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the Ba'th Party National Command, WPC deputy chairman and chairman of the Peace Council in Syria, returned to Damascus from Havana last night after participating in the WPC Presidium, attended by about 17 delegations represnting national, regional and international organizations that are struggling for the cause of liberation, peace and democracy in the world.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent upon his return, Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj said: Our delegation's participation in this conference was extremely positive, explaining and clarifying developments in our region and the role of our party and revolution in repulsing the escalating imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plotting. We made direct contact with the delegations participating in this meeting to prepare for the international conference for solidarity with Syria and the PLO against the plots of imperialism and its allies, which will be held in Damascus 22-25 June.

SECOND SYRIAN HELICOPTER DOWNED IN LEBANON

TA281707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] In the afternoon Israeli Air Force aircraft downed a second Syrian helicopter in the Al-Biqa' region. This was reported by the IDF spokesman, answering a question by our correspondent.

The IDF spokesman also denied reports from Beirut about dogfights that took place today between Israeli and Syrian aircraft. There were no such dogfights, the spokesman said.

The Christian Lebanese radio stations and official sources in Beirut reported that Israeli planes shelled Syrian positions in the Sannin heights and around Zahlah in the afternoon. According to these sources, the second Syrian helicopter was downed in the course of the latter attacks of the Israeli Air Force. The helicopter was on its way back from a combat mission in the Sannin heights area which the Syrians have been trying to conquer. According to the sources in Beirut, two Israeli planes participated in the operations, an F-15 and an F-16. As in the case of the helicopter that was downed at noon, the second helicopter was downed by an air-to-air missile.

BEGIN, OTHERS COMMENT ON LEBANON DEVELOPMENTS

Begin on Policy Change

TA281847 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Excerpt] A further escalation in the situation in Lebanon: the Israeli Air Force shot down two Syrian helicopters over central Lebanon. First word of this came from Prime Minister Begin after a meeting with a group of representatives from Israel's northern settlements who are worried about the situation. After the meeting, the prime minister se out Israel's position to reporters. Political correspondent David Essing was at the prime minister's office:

[Begin recording] [Question by unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, Israeli aircraft today shot down a Syrian helicopter.

[Begin] Two.

[Unidentified correspondent] Two Syrian helicopters?

[Begin] Yes, sir.

[Unidentified correspondent] Is this an indication of a change in Israel's policy, that Israeli aircraft are now going to go after Syrian armed forces in Lebanon and over Lebanon?

[Begin] You can say that it is, of course, a certain change. But we do it, again, for those defensive purposes, namely, to defend or to save the Christians from the danger of utter destruction. We didn't want those clashes with the Syrian helicopters. But those helicopters come from Damascus and they land somewhere and then they go up to the mountains and try to kill all the Christians there and take over; and, therefore, this is a defensive action by our air force.

[Essing] Jerusalem was in contact today with Washington on the latest developments. Begin said U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has made great efforts to try and bring about a cease-fire in Lebanon but the Syrians would not listen. The prime minister refused to comment on what the American position is.

As for the representatives from the northern settlements: they left the meeting encouraged. They said they were satisfied the Israeli Government is doing all it can to bring about an end to the fighting. [end recording]

Begin Explains Objective

TA281743 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Interview of Prime Minister Menahem Begin by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on 28 April; place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, what is the significance of today's government statement about the situation in Lebanon?

[Answer] The government's statement would not have been important had it not been for the act that came in its wake. We stated that we cannot acquiesce in the Syrians' attempt to take over Lebanon and to annihilate the Christians. That is exactly what the Syrians have been trying to do in the past few days. Not only did they besiege Zahlah and surround it from all sides--and there is no water today in Zahlah, there is not enough bread, buildings are in ruins, there is no hospital, the suffering is incalculable, and it was the Syrians who caused all this suffering--but they suddenly began attacking the Lebanese heights and they brought in helicopters and they are killing the Christians there. And if they were to take control of these heights, they would be able to shell Juniyah, which is the Christians' only port, through which it is possible to bring some sort of help to the Christians, whether arms or food or anything else. So all the Christians are besieged, not only those in Zahlah. Beirut is after all a ghost town; a large part of the Christian population was forced to leave in the face of these brutal shellings of a civilian population.

Today we met, we held consultations. We made important decisions and we began to implement them. We downed two helicopters from among those which are being used to kill the Syrians [as heard] on the heights and to take control of them. There is basis for assuming that we shall not make do just with this operation. We have no interest in getting involved in a conflict with the Syrians. We do not want a war with the Syrians--but we are fulfilling what we said: We shall not let the Syrians take over Lebanon and annihilate the Christians. First of all, because of our moral commitment to the Christians--not because we said we would defend them; of course, one must honor one's word--but because this is part of our makeup, our inner being. We are Jews. I say to everyone: For God's sake, is a Jewish state to remain indifferent to an attempt to exterminate another people, the members of another faith? Can we allow ourselves to remain indifferent? That is totally inconceivable. So that is our profound moral commitment. But we also have a salient national interest. Are the Syrians to take over all of Lebanon--the Lebanese heights--are they to control all of Lebanon? So who will then stop them from moving south, together with the murderers' organization, and then the murderers organization will be on our northern border, together with all the Syrians. That is totally inconceivable. By what right are they doing this? We discussed the situation and in brief, in one sentence, we stated: Israel will not be able to acquiesce in a Syrian takeover of Lebanon, or with their annihilation of the Christians. And this is what we are doing now.

[Question] But, sir, does it not not pose the danger that, while Israel is seeking to help the Christians, it is liable to get involved in an all-out war with Syria and extend the front to the Golan Heights?

[Answer] My friend, I think there will be no such war but if you ask me if there are any risks involved in what is being done, I will not deny it. But what do people want? Do they imagine we shall stand aside, that we will not do anything--how does the Biblical phrase go: that we shall stand idly by? That we will stand aside?

I hope that the Syrians do not get into a war with us. That is what I hope. We shall remain very alert. If they do something against us, we shall think once more about a countermove. I hope that this entire operation will ultimately lead to calm. Sometimes you have to act in order to bring about calm. A cease-fire, perhaps also an armistice, perhaps also peace; perhaps also the Syrians' leaving Lebanon together with the murderers' organization? Why did they take over Lebanon? What do they want from poor Lebanon? It was a wonderful land. They called it the Switzerland of the Middle East--they destroyed it to the very foundations.

[Question] Can we take this to mean that Israel's objective is to get the Syrians to leave Lebanon?

[Answer] I think this would be very desirable but it is not our task to remove the Syrians from Lebanon. We did not give anyone an undertaking to do that and we will not send in our divisions in order to expel the Syrians. I said earlier what we want. We have a very specific objective: not to let the Syrians take over Lebanon, or on the Lebanese heights, and not to let the Syrians annihilate the Christians. That is our objective. We do not want a war with the Syrians. We do not want any clashes with them. If they had preserved what was until now the status quo, today's events would not have taken place. And as for the violation of the status quo, the United States told the Syrians explicitly: You are to blame, not the Maronites, not the Israelis; you, the Syrians, are to blame. This is what the United States told them explicitly yesterday. And you must return to your former positions.

[Question] Can we take it, sir, that Israel in fact exhausted the diplomatic path, the contacts with the United States, in order to try to convince the Syrians to stop their attacks on the Phalangists?

[Answer] That is correct. Yes, we followed that path. We did not hurry to use arms. And the United States agreed to convince the Syrians not to go on killing men, women and children. An extremely important diplomatic effort was made. But the Syrians did not listen to them; the Syrians are showing contempt for the United States. Did you know that Al-Asad under no circumstances would receive the U.S. ambassador? And only Khaddam, their foreign minister, who is today in Beirut, received the U.S. ambassador--and he listened, yes, but with total contempt. The United States made a major effort.

Begin Television Interview

TA282004 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Interview of Prime Minister Menahem Begin by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari at the prime minister's office on 28 April--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Question] Would you say that there are restrictions on the Israeli interference [in Lebanon] which began today? Will Israel not allow the Syrians to take over the Lebanon mountains? Will we interfere if the shelling of the Christian quarters in Zahlah continues or only if the Syrian Air Force is put into operation?

[Answer] There are always restrictions. We have not declared war on Syria. We want to assure the existence of the Syrians--excuse me, the Christians--and we will not let them take over Lebanon and annihilate the Christians. These helicopters, both of Soviet and French make, go to the mountains--this is not such a big deal, there are [only] partisan fighters there--and fire missiles, killing them and trying to take over. They can do that--some braveness. So, we do not allow them to approach the mountains. True, we began this move today; one has to make decisions and we made these decisions today.

[Question] Will we persist on this in the future, too?

[Answer] No doubt about it.

[Question] Is the possibility being taken into account that the Syrians will feel obliged to react with force to our interference over the Al-Biqa' region?

[Answer] I cannot reply to this question. It is up to the Syrians. I want to reiterate that we do not want to attack the Syrians either. We are defending the Christians. If the Syrians react to this, we will sit and decide what to do. We will certainly disregard any attack on us; this should be known.

[Question] Have the other people, have the Christian leaders of Lebanon appealed to you and asked Israel to interfere and assist them now?

[Answer] The Christian leaders do not have to appeal to me. Certainly, from time to time they tell us what is going on. This is obvious. After all, we have not kept it a secret that we have been aiding the Christians all the time. However, we keep alert, we follow the situation. Today we made decisions in the face of the changes that occurred as a result of the Syrian aggression.

[Question] And these scenes will also continue tomorrow? If the Syrians...

[Begin--interrupting] I cannot commit myself to any dates. We will not let the Syrians take over Lebanon and liquidate the Christians. You should tell our public this.

[Question] Has a political message also been delivered to the Syrians?

[Answer] It has been conveyed. A warning has been issued through the United States.

[Question] Is there in Israel...

[Begin--interrupting] A warning that we will not put up with a takeover of Lebanon and the liquidation of the Christians.

[Question] Does Israel have any proposal for a possible solution, for a stable intermission in Lebanon?

[Answer] We have always wanted a cease-fire. Let them stop the fire, let them not hit anyone, let them get off Zahlah and Beirut. Do we, God forbid, want the killing of people? We do not want to hit the Syrians either. However, if they continue doing what they are doing we really must defend the Christians--and this is exactly what we will do.

[Question] Do we also have any idea about arranging such a cease-fire?

[Answer] If everybody held his fire then nobody would be hurt. However, as the Americans told the Syrians, the Syrians began this and they must return to their previous positions.

[Question] And do you expect the Syrians to react with understanding to our operation today?

[Answer] I hope the entire world will show understanding. What is it? Do we want even one piece of Lebanese soil? We want the whole of Lebanon to be one country, an independent and free country; but not occupied by the Syrians and not even partially occupied by those murderous terrorists. This is up to the other side. If they cease fire nobody will get hurt.

Tzipori Interview

TA281553 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Interview of Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori by military correspondent Sha'ul Stav on 28 April--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori, Israeli Air Force planes today downed a Syrian helicopter in the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon. What significance may we attach to this?

[Answer] The significance is very simple: we have many times announced that we have a commitment to the Christians and we will not allow them to be destroyed by remaining silent. Recently, the Syrians have introduced a new dimension into the war against the Christians, a dimension against which the Christians cannot defend themselves--namely various types of helicopters which are causing them very heavy casualties. In an attempt to protect [as heard] them--these Syrian helicopters appeared and then one of them was downed.

[Question] The aerial activity over Lebanon seems to be getting more and more intensive. Following the downing of the helicopter, is there no apprehension of more extensive dog-fights between ourselves and the Syrians?

[Answer] There is always apprehension but the State of Israel has conveyed and is conveying again that there will be no Syrian air activity in Lebanese airspace.

[Question] The government today stated again that it will not acquiesce in a Syrian take-over of Lebanon. What is the practical meaning of this statement?

[Answer] Its practical meaning is that we will continue our political efforts, as we have done until now--and I may note happily that these are political efforts which have borne fruit; this is perhaps the first time that in the Middle East arena, and particularly as regards Lebanon, there is this kind of positive approach on the part of many countries--and especially by the United States--which are trying to handle the problems as they are and not just out of what I would call irrelevant considerations.

[Question] Finally, sir, the Syrians' recent moves seem to indicate that they are attempting to take over the ridgeline in Lebanon in order to control both the valley and the coast. What is the significance of this as far as Israel is concerned?

[Answer] We said: the State of Israel is interested in there being free elements in Lebanon, that there be a chance in the future for the establishment of peaceful relations with another neighbor of Israeli's. The Syrian moves are designed to frustrate any possibility of this kind of element being solidified in Lebanon and they are trying to suppress it. This move regarding the ridgeline is one of their efforts to suppress the Christian minority.

Eytan Remarks

TA281807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] As reported, Israel downed two Syrian helicopters in the Sannin heights area when they were attacking Christian strongholds on the mountain overseeing the area of Zahlah. The downing of the two helicopters was an Israeli signal to Syria that by using helicopters against the christians it had crossed the red line. Israel warns that it will not allow Syria to annihilate the Christians in Lebanon. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports:

[Tal] Israel and Syria see eye-to-eye on very few things. However, one issue that the Syrians understand beyond any doubt is the operation of combat aircraft in Lebanon against targets on the ground. To date, they have not attacked these with planes and it is clear to them that Israel would not tolerate it. In the last few days, the Syrians tested Israel's reaction to the operation of helicopters against targets on the ground and today they received the answer. Following the government's decision, the air force was put into action. The helicopters were spotted on radar and aircraft were rapidly deployed against them. One of the helicopters, of the MI-8 type, was downed this morning north of Riyaq--a Syrian frontline airfield--and another helicopter was downed in the afternoon in the vicinity of Zahlah. The two helicopters were downed by cannon fire while carrying out attack missions. The area where the helicopters operated is protected by all kinds of antiaircraft defense systems. Sources said that the Syrians had taken into account an Israeli intervention.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan told us in a public event this afternoon that the take-over of the mountain positions on the Sannin heights by the Syrians would put the Christians' existence in question:

[Begin recording][Eytan] The Syrians are operating armed helicopters of the Gazelle type and troop-carrying helicopters. They have initiated an attack on the mountain slopes which form the backbone of the Christians in northern Lebanon.

[Tal] Does this pose an immediate threat to Israel, a threat that did not exist prior to the introduction of the helicopters into the Sannin heights area?

[Answer] This poses an immediate threat to the existence and the combat capability of the Christians in the north. [end recording]

[Tal] Although it is not certain, it seems that the Christian position on the Golan Heights, called the "French Room," has fallen into the hands of the Syrians. If the Syrians continue to operate helicopters against the Christians, the possibility should not be ruled out that the Israeli Air Force will again be sent against them. However, this will be seen in the next few days. In any case, the Syrians have been showing determination to take over Zahlah and the Beirut-Damascus axis. Nevertheless, they are not ready to give up this point. The question remains: What kind of risks are they willing to undertake to that effect?

Further Comment

TA282010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Sources in Israel said they hope that the downing of the two Syrian helicopters in Lebanese skies will serve as a clear warning to the Syrians. Israel's intention was to warn the Syrians both against the use of aircraft against the Christians in Lebanon and against attempts to capture the mountain slope. In the view of the Israeli sources, the Syrians will not react to the downing of the helicopters today. The Syrians understand Israel's intention. They know they have gone beyond the red line and the sources hope they will not take any steps. Our correspondent this afternoon asked the chief of staff, Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan, for his reaction to the downing of the Syrian helicopter:

[Begin recording] [Question] Do you regard today's Israeli Air Force attack on a Syrian helicopter [singular as heard] as an escalation?

[Answer] No.

[Question] How, then, would you explain it?

[Answer] The government's statement explains the entire matter [word indistinct].

[Question] How does the IDF view the situation now created in Lebanon?

[Answer] Like the government.

[Question] What can you say, Chief of Staff, on the downing of the helicopter in Lebanon?

[Answer] Goodbye, see you.

[Question] Today, for the first time, the IDF attacked a Syrian helicopter, the Syrian Army. Do you not fear the Syrian reaction?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Do you think the people of Israel should get an explanation of what happened today in Syria [as heard]?

[Answer] The government issued a statement and that is the explanation.

[Question] And the IDF has nothing to say on this matter?

[Answer] When the IDF has something to say, it will say it.

[Question] Does this mean that henceforth the IDF will intervene in order to defend the Christians in practice?

[Answer] That is your meaning, not mine; and you will not get me to say anything.

[Question] What can you say to the people of Israel who are now watching you on television?

[Answer] Happy independence day.

Dayan Statement

TA281756 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Knesset member Moshe Dayan says that Israel has the right and the obligation to take measures--including military measures--so that Syria leaves Lebanon. Israel cannot acquiesce in Lebanon being transformed into a forward Syrian base which helps the terrorists in their fighting against Israel. Dayan stressed that Israel need not capture additional territories to achieve this end. Israel must use its military means in restricted fashion, while intensifying diplomatic activity to restrain the Syrians.

28 APR MINISTERIAL TALKS WEIGH SYRIAN MOVES

TA281538 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Apr 81

[By political correspondent Gad Becker--live]

[Text] A ministerial meeting was convened today in Jerusalem for an updating on and discussion of the latest developments in Lebanon regarding the latest wave of Syrian attacks. Following the lengthy discussion, the prime minister decided to issue a public communique containing an Israeli warning to Syria.

As is already known, Israel did not make do with this announcement. The second part of this move was the downing of a Syrian helicopter. Israeli sources say that this downing of the helicopter--which was no accident--was to make unequivocally clear to the Syrians the gravity with which Israel views the latest events in Lebanon and the Israeli stand, which is not based on declarations alone.

The situation in Lebanon has greatly deteriorated in the past few days and there is talk in Jerusalem of low morale among the Christians, a tangible danger to their ability to stand fast, and, on the other side, there are new components in the Syrian fighting, of which the most prominent is the aerial dimension. Given the fact of an organized army, equipped with an air force, heavy artillery and tanks, which is attacking guerrilla forces such as those of the Christians, the situation requires assistance to those being attacked, sources in Israel say. These sources also note that the Syrians have thus far not heeded the warnings and approaches made through diplomatic channels, both from the United States and from Israel, and in fact reacted to them arrogantly.

The attack on the Christian strongholds on the Lebanese heights has continued. With the use of helicopters, the Christians' stand has been increasingly undermined. It is being stressed again in Jerusalem that Israel will continue to defend the Christians and will not allow them to be annihilated or stripped of the roots of their organization.

'Resolution' Cited

TA290524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Israel will continue to act against the attempts by Syria to take over Lebanon and will not shrink from a confrontation with the Syrians. Our political correspondent reported that this resolution, made yesterday in the course of ministerial consultations, got impetus, among other things, from the fact that Israel has exhausted the diplomatic channels of calming the situation. Recently, several warnings have been transmitted to Syria, through the United States, but the Syrians minimized both the warnings and the United States. [as heard]

According to an assessment prevalent in Israel, the U.S. administration will not protest the way Israel has chosen to react to events in Lebanon. Last night, political circles emphasized that if the Syrians react by escalating the situation in Lebanon or by carrying out operations against Israel, there will, in parallel, be an escalation in Israel's operations in relation to Syria.

Military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reported that after the downing of the two Syrian helicopters yesterday the view is that if the Syrians now give up using helicopters against Christian concentrations in the Sannin hills they will have only a slim chance of capturing the hills overlooking Lebanese terrain. However, if they redeploy helicopters, our correspondent said that our air force might again operate against them.

Our correspondent noted that the Syrians have not yet reinforced their commando forces deployed against the Christians in the Sannin hills and they have about a battalion of them stationed there.

The two Syrian helicopters were downed yesterday while on a mission against Christian strongholds in the Sannin hills. They were downed by Israeli Air Force planes' gunfire.

ALGERIA

LEADERS GREET NEW MAURITANIAN COUNTERPARTS 27 APR

LD281556 Algiers APS in English 1514 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Algiers, 28 Apr (APS)--M. Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, CC member and prime minister addressed yesterday congratulation message to the new Mauritanian prime minister, Lieutenant-Colonel Maouya Ould Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya. In his message, M. Abdelghani reaffirmed "Algeria's willingness to develop and reinforce multiple relationships existing between our two countries as well as friendship good neighbourhood, [as received] cooperation and solidarity links between our two countries." In his turn Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, CC member, foreign affairs minister, sent the same message to his Mauritanian counterpart, Lieutenant Commander Dahane Ould Ahmed Mahmoud.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

LD281548 Algiers APS in English 1425 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Algiers, 28 Apr (APS)--A protocol agreement was signed Monday at the end of the week of friendship, between Algiers and Prague, which was arranged in the Algerian capital from 21 to 28 April 1981. Under the terms of this agreement, the two sides are to exchange experiences. Thus, the technical cooperation will be strengthened by the sending of Czechoslovak technicians and experts to Algeria. As for the cultural cooperation, the two parties agreed to pursue their activities as well as their exchanges.

LIBYA

JANA REPORTS ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

Religious Activities

LD282326 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr (JANA)--The brother leader of the revolution and accompanying delegation today performed noon prayers at Moscow's grand mosque. JANA reports that today, and for the first time, the call to prayers echoed over loudspeakers, as the call "God is the greatest" was repeated loudly in Moscow.

Worshippers received the leader of the revolution by acclamation, expressing appreciation for and pride in the leader's courageous and honorable stands in support of Islam and the banner of Islam, as well as the leader's support for Muslims and their causes all over the world, in addition to his siding with the causes of right and freedom.

The leader heard explanations about the condition of Muslims in the Soviet Union.

The leader and his delegation also visited the Muslim cemetery in Moscow, where he read Koranic verses.

Moscow Radio Coverage

LD281712 Tripoli JANA in English 1526 GMT 28 Apr 81

["Radio Moscow Highlights Al-Qadhdhafi's Visit"--JANA headline]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr (JANA)--Radio Moscow described Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's visit to the Soviet Union as another step on the road to furthering the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Libyan and Soviet peoples since the outbreak of the Great al-Fateh Revolution which opened new horizons before the Libyan people.

The radio reviewed the courageous stands of Al-Fateh Revolution and pointed out its historic role in evacuating the colonialist bases from the Libyan soil and mentioned the gains and achievements accomplished through the Great Al-Fateh Revolution and its leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Al-Fateh Revolution, it added, has put the oil resources for service of the people and employed its revenues in the economic construction and important transformations.

The efforts of the Libyan people, it confirmed, are now concentrated in reviving agriculture, industry and education. Libya's voice became strong and confident in the Arab and international arena and the Libyan people has played a significant part in the consolidation and unity of all nationalist forces in the Arab world against the conspiracies of imperialism and its satellites. It added that the Libyan people strongly reject Camp David accords.

The Jamahiriyah, it said, is playing a prominent role in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front which is leading the struggle against Camp David treaty and the parties concerned who are carrying out a vicious propaganda attack against Libya.

The radio condemned As-Sadat's suspicious attempts against the Jamahiriyah and the Egyptian military buildup along Libyan borders. It also condemned the unholy alliance of U.S. imperialism, Egypt, Sudan and Morocco which is aimed at dealing a blow to the progressive Arab forces and serving the U.S. interests in the region.

Finally the radio said, "The Soviet people wholeheartedly welcome the leader of the Great 1st September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who's current visit is an important step towards strengthening the Soviet and Libyan Arab peoples' ties and cooperation".

COMMUNIQUE ON MALAGASY FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

LD282356 Tripoli JANA in English 1816 GMT 28 apr 81

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Apr, (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--A press communique on the visit of the Malagasy foreign minister to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was issed in both Tripoli and Antananarivo. The communique stressed the identity of views between the Jamahiriyah and Madagascar on international issues of mutual interest, especially the situation in Africa and the Arab homeland.

The communique also expressed the two sides determination to continue the fight for the freedom and independence of oppressed peoples and the final elimination of imperialism racism and zionism.

It warmly greeted the brave positions adopted by the Jamahiriyah to help the Chadian people preserve its unity and independence, rebuild its national economy and put an end to the war fuelled by imperialist and reactionary forces. The two sides also condemned the attempts made by imperialism and colonialism to set up bases on the African Continent in view of dominating its peoples.

The communique stressed the need to reinforce solidarity between African progressive forces, and in this respect, the two sides expressed their total support for the Libyan proposal to convene a meeting of African progressive states in order to discuss matters of security and cooperation between them. They greeted the victory of the Zimbabwean people and condemned the plots aimed at delaying Namibia's independence. They also reiterated their material, moral and political support for the fight of the Namibian people against the racist regime in Pretoria.

They expressed their strong condemnation of the conspiracies aimed at delaying the acceptance of the Democratic Saharan Republic as a member of the Organization of African Unity.

The communique also reiterated the two sides' support for the right of the Palestinian people to create their independent state on their soil, and their strong condemnation of the Camp David accords and the imperialist and racist plots aimed at prolonging the suffering of the Palestinian people. They condemned all capitulatory attempts aimed at continuing the Zionist occupation of Palestine.

They stressed support for a U.N. conference in Colombia to turn the Indian Ocean into a peace zone, and Madagascar's call to hold a similar conference in Antananarivo. They demanded the urgent creation of a new international economic order to confront the world's economic crises, stressing the need to make efforts to promote cooperation between developing countries, which have to be self-reliant. On the bilateral level, the two sides decided to develop cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Madagascar in every field of economic development, and they expressed their deep satisfaction with the important decisions reached during the fourth session of the Joint Libyan-Malagasy Commission. The Malagasy side praised the political, economic and social achievements made by the Libyan Arab people guided by the Great al-Fateh Revolution.

MAURITANIA

NEW CABINET MEETS TO ESTABLISH COMMISSIONS

AB281831 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] The Cabinet met yesterday under the chairmanship of Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. This is the first meeting following the recent Cabinet reshuffle by the CMSN at its ordinary session on 24 April 1981. it was a familiarization meeting to draw up working methods and define the spirit of teamwork which must prevail within the government. At the meeting, the head of state introduced the prime minister and the minister of defense, Lt Col Maaouya Ould Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya. He also gave firm instructions for a total and immediate revival of all the sectors of the administration and an overhauling of all [word indistinct] through his willingness to implement scrupulously the program for the country's revival adopted by the CMSN in 1979.

For his part, the prime minister stressed the need for rapid and radical changes in the administration, which is noted for sluggishness in the discharge of duties entrusted to it, lack of definite responsibility for the civil servants, corruption and carelessness. In order to correct these shortcomings and put the country back on the real path of recovery, the meeting decided to set up four commissions charged with drawing up programs of action in various fields.

First there is the commission charged with the drawing up of a general program for the implementation of the plan for revival as defined by the CMSN in October 1979. Secondly, there is the commission charged with studying the structures of the administration with a view to pinpointing in best ways to make it [word indistinct] functional and effective. Thirdly, there is the commission charged with assessing the economic and social development program for 1981 and 1982. Fourthly, there is the commission charged with finding the best ways of utilizing our means of information.

SUDAN

SUNA CITED ON LIBYAN MASSACRE OF ULEMAS IN CHAD

AP290859 Paris AFP in French 0810 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Apr (AFP)--Some eminent Chadian Muslim theologians have been massacred by Libyan troops stationed in Chad, the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY [SUNA] affirmed on Tuesday. In a dispatch dated from the Chadian town of Abeche (about 150 km from the Sudanese border), SUNA specifies that Sheikh Adam Baraka, the imam of Abeche, and several Chadian religious leaders were arrested and executed for protesting against the Libyan military presence in Chad in a communique delivered to the authorities.

SUNA does not specify the date and place of the executions, nor the date of the theologians' communique. According to SUNA, the original Frolinat of Dr Abba Siddick, an opposition Chadian faction, has condemned the execution of Sheikh Baraka and the ulemas. The original Frolinat also holds the Libyan troops responsible for the mysterious disappearances of the Sheikh's son, Mr Mahamat Nour Adam, secretary general of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT], SUNA added.

DJIBOUTI

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES NEED TO SOLVE HORN ISSUE

JN281333 Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Doha, 28 Apr (QNA)--Djibouti President Hassan Gouled has stressed the need for a peaceful African solution to the Ogaden issue. Such a solution, he said, would spare the Horn of Africa region the resources that are being wasted in fighting and would steer the region away from foreign interference which is threatening everyone. The Djibouti president also said that he is currently using his good offices among the states of the Horn of Africa with the aim of bringing the conflicting parties to the table of direct negotiation. He expressed optimism about the contacts he had made so far with Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Kenya and the PDRY.

In a statement published today in the Qatari Newspaper AR-RAYAH, the president of Djibouti reiterated his country's commitment to the principle of nonalignment and said: We respect and recognize everybody's interest and have the same relation with the Soviets that we have with the Americans. President Gouled ruled out any Djibouti fears concerning Soviet threats so long as there is no enmity or special relations between Djibouti and anybody, as he put it.

President Gouled expressed his satisfaction with the process of Arabization in his country and praised the Arab League's role in this field. He affirmed that his country would not restore diplomatic relations with Egypt unless As-Sadat restores his relations with Arab unanimity. He pointed out that it was impossible to have relations with the Arabs and the Zionist entity at the same time.

ETHIOPIA

MUBARAK SAYS TRIPARTITE MEETING NOT 'BLOC'

LD282150 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 28 Apr 81 EA

[Text] The Sudanese minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, has said that the tripartite meeting of foreign affairs of Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya is not a meeting of one camp or a bloc, but (?an opening) for a bigger participation of the countries in the region.

Speaking at a press conference in Addis Ababa yesterday in connection with the ministeral meeting of the three neighboring African countries which will open tomorrow, Mr Muhammad Mirghani said that the meeting was being convened in accordance with the decisions of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia and President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri of the Sudan and President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya. He emphasized that it was high time for the three neighboring sister countries to make joint efforts to exploit (?their possibilities) for self-development. (?The favorable) conditions towards this end, he said, have been (?encouraging).

CUBAN ASSISTANCE PRAISED BY AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL

FL281211 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Ethiopia's deputy minister of agriculture, (Segaye Asafaw), has praised Cuba's contributions to his country's livestock development. He was speaking in Addis Ababa at the first scientific-veterinarian meeting of Cuban collaborators in Ethiopia.

The deputy minister referred to the Ethiopian Government's work since the triumph of the revolution in 1974 in the area of economic development and the role played in this development by the cooperation of Cuban specialists in many areas: veterinary medicine and agriculture in general.

The scientific forum, chaired by Raul Curbelo Morales, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and chief of the civilian mission in Ethiopia, opened yesterday in the Ethiopian capital. Sixty-six scientific papers prepared by Cuban and Ethiopian specialists will be discussed at the meeting.

SOMALIA

SRC ANNOUNCES DECREE ON GOVERNMENT CHANGES

LD282240 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 28 Apr 81 EA

[Text] A meeting held yesterday afternoon by the Supreme Revolutionary Council [SRC] and chaired by the president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre [words indistinct] political, economic and [word indistinct] issues. [Words indistinct] reached resolutions regarding the organizing and implementation of the [word indistinct] objectives. [Words indistinct] the resolution [words indistinct] that members of the SRC be relieved of (?their duties) [words indistinct] and national development in order to achieve the aspirations of the Somali people. For this reason, the officials who are still members of the party, [words indistinct].

In accordance with article 83 of the SDR Constitution, Presidential Decree No 1 of 21 October 1980 declaring the state of emergency, when the president reviewed the reasons for reestablishing the SRC--which were to confront the discrepancies and correct the problems which brought about the state of emergency--when he looked into the weight and [word indistinct] of the responsibility of the SRC which made its reestablishment imperative so that its members would find ample time to carry out their responsibility of putting an end to the deviations from revolutionary objectives and their position in the party, the National Assembly and the government; after hearing the views of the SRC, he announced the following decree:

Article 1: In force from the date of issue of the decree, the following officials have been relieved of their SRC duties: Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar, first vice president of the SDR and also defense minister; Maj Gen Hussein Kulmiye Afrah, second vice president; Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokor, chairman of the National Assembly; Brig Gen Ahmed Sulayman Abdulle, presidential adviser on security and commandant of the security service; Lt Gen Muhammad Shaykh Uthman, first deputy chairman of the National Assembly; Col 'Abd ar-Razzaq Muhmud Abubakar, second deputy chairman of the National Assembly; Col Ahmad Mahmud Farah, chairman of the General Bureau of Ideology and Foreign Affairs; Col Musa Rabileh Got, chairman of the General Bureau of Economy and Finance; Col Usman Muhammad Jelle, chairman of the General Bureau of Scientific Research; Col 'Abd al-Qadir Haji Muhammad, chairman of the General Bureau of Organization and Mass Mobilization.

Article 2: The posts vacated by the defense minister and the commandant of Somali security will be temporarily held by their deputies.

Article 3: The posts vacated by the chairmen of the general bureaus will be temporarily held by the chairmen of the bureaus [word indistinct].

Article 4: The posts of chairman and deputy chairman of the National Assembly will be temporarily held by appointed members of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly.

Article 5: This decree will be published in the official SDR GAZETTE.

The SRC, in a special session, will announce another resolution. In accordance with the resolutions adopted by the SRC during yesterday afternoon's meeting, the SRC in another meeting this afternoon with the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and the National Assembly approved the following articles:

Challe Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokor has been elected third vice president of the SDR; Challe Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmad [last name indistinct] elected chairman of the National Assembly; while Challe Umar Arteh Ghalib was elected first deputy chairman of the National Assembly and Cahlle Mohamed Burale Ismail was elected second deputy chairman.

Challe Abd al-Qassim Salad Hassan has been elected chairman of the Political Committee of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly. Challe Warsame Ali Farah was elected chairman of the Inspection Committee of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly.

All these officials were duly sworn-in before the president of the SRD, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre.

BARRE RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM OMANI SULTAN

LD270844 Mogadishu Domestic in Somali 1700 GMT 26 Apr 81 EA

[Text] The secretary general of the Somalia Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, this afternoon received a message from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id of Oman pertaining to the strengthening of relations between the two countries and the current world situation. The message was delivered to President Siad Barre by the Sultanate of Oman's ambassador to the Somali Democratic Republic.

President Mohamed Siad Barre had a cordial conversation with the ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman in which they discussed relations and cooperation between the two sisterly states and ways of promoting and strengthening bilateral ties. Senior officials of the presidential office attended the meeting.

SALVATION FRONT LEADER INTERVIEWED ON AIMS, VIEWS

LD281015 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 15 Apr 81 p 5

[Interview given to 'Abd al-Karim Sa'd by Somali Salvation Front Secretary General Col 'Abdallah Yusuf al-Amin during his visit to Syria--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Shall we begin by discussing the popular forces which comprise the Somali Salvation Front and the front's basic aims?

[Answer] The Somali Salvation Front is an independent national organization comprising all factions of the people as well as most political tendencies in Somalia. Its basic aim is to struggle relentlessly and continuously against the existing regime, led by the dictator Siad Barre, and to topple it by armed struggle. Our revolutionaries have been staging constant military operations against this regime and our aim is to hit all the soft spots so as to shake the foundations of Siad Barre's entity. We have succeeded in triggering an armed popular revolution against the regime preparatory to crushing it and ridding the Somali people of it. Our revolutionaries are daily attacking most of the regime's important positions and scoring victories over its forces. We have been pursuing a popular armed war in striking at the positions of the despot Siad Barre. The front has been able to build a national army whose strength is growing daily. Our army has staged various operations in most Somali towns. The front also has a radio station which broadcasts daily programs and talks to the Somali people and directs their struggle in a correct and accurate manner.

In addition to armed struggle, our front is waging a political struggle to win friends and allies so that we will triumph and overthrow Siad Barre's regime.

[Question] Can you tell us something about the current situation in Somalia as seen by the Salvation Front?

[Answer] For a long time now, Somalia has been subjected to a fascist government led by Siad Barre, who has tried to set the national forces on a course that does not serve our people or achieve any victory for them. Barre has led a group of military men which has violated all principles, trampled all public liberties underfoot and abolished all constitutions and laws beneficial to the people.

Regarding foreign policy, Siad Barre's regime has flung itself into the lap of American imperialism and has thrown the interests of the homeland and the people over the wall. It has allied itself with the enemies of the Arab nation, offered extensive facilities to the United States and permitted it to establish military bases in the country. It has severed its relations with the socialist states and the Soviet Union and all the progressive forces in the world. As a result of this, it can be said that Siad Barre's regime is now experiencing stifling isolating and facing numerous internal problems. It is also surrounded by the national popular support. It is ruling the country by fire and steel, terror and domination without democracy.

[Question] By flinging himself into the lap of imperialism, Said Barre has undoubtedly added many new burdens to your load. How does your front view the solution?

[Answer] The imperialist presence represented by the emergency of large military bases on Somalia's soil has affected our struggle. It is true that the target of these American military bases is the Horn of Africa and the Middle East in general but, at the same time, they are ready to hit the Somali liberation movements and to project the ruling military clique in Somalia.

However, we are sure that we will triumph over Barre's regime and its American allies. The will of our people is stronger than their weapons. The shah of Iran is the best example of a despot's weakness when faced with popular wrathe, irrespective of how strong the despot's arsenal is.

Therefore, the Salvation Front and all its masses must mount an earnest, strong and concentrated struggle against the American bases and all forms of American presence in the country. It would not be surprising if our masses are able to oust the American imperialist soldiers from Somali territory, because the will of the people is stronger than all weapons.

[Question] What is your attitude toward the governments in Cairo, Baghdad and Amman?

[Answer] Our attitude is well known. It is the same as the attitudes of Syria and all Arab progressive forces, particularly the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. Our people in Somalia and all the Arab people are experiencing the same pains and hopes. We are all struggling against a common enemy who is assuming many forms. As-Sadat is not different from Siad Barre. [Iraqi President] Saddam and [Jordanian King] Husayn are the same as the ruling clique in Somalia. They are all dominated by American imperialism. The ruler of Egypt, for example, has been sending various arms to Siad Barre's regime to enable this dictator to crush the Somalia liberation movements in the country. We wish he had presented weapons to the Somali people to enhance their strength and capability. On the other hand, Jordan is playing a conspiratorial role against our people in Somalia. The king of Jordan has often called for material and moral support to be given to "Muslim" President Siad Barre. Saddam concluded agreements with the shah of Iran, who was famous for his barbarism and injustic toward the people of Iran.

When the people's revolution erupted in Iran, Saddam went to war against the revolutionary guards. On the basis of all this, we see that these different faces constitute one image, whose purpose is to serve imperialism and Zionism and whose primary task is to suppress liberation movements, wherever they may be.

UGANDA

THREE ARRESTED FOR ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

AB280957 Paris AFP in English 0906 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Kampala, April 28 (AFP)--Uganda police have arrested three men in connection with yesterday's attempted assassination of Animal Industry and Fisheries Minister John Joseph Otim, it was announced here last night.

A statement from Internal Affairs Minister John Luwuliza Kirunda said the three were assisting police in investigations into the gun attack on Mr Otim's car as he left his Kampala office for lunch.

The minister and three other people in the car received minor injuries, the statement said. Earlier reports said Mr Otim's bodyguard was critically wounded.

The statement, the first official account of the ambush, said that bandits and assassins waylaid the minister in the afternoon at the gate of the ministry headquarters.

Bandits is the term used by government officials to describe the underground movements seeking to overthrow President Milton Obote's Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) Government, elected last December in a poll whose results have been widely rejected in many areas of south and western Uganda.

The Internal Affairs Ministry statement also reported another armed attack yesterday at Kawanda village, seven miles (11 kms) north of Kampala, where three people were said to have been killed in a gun attack on a lorry from the north of the country.

In a similar ambush in Kawanda last month on an army convoy, five government soldiers were killed and at least one truck destroyed.

The statement said that once again killer bandits and murderers have demonstrated their bankruptcy with cowardly acts of murder and assassination. Government will do everything in its power to bring these bandits to book.

Twelve days ago a UPC member of Parliament, Joseph Muhangi, was killed in an ambush a few miles out of Kampala.

GROUP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR 22 APR ATTACK

AB240642 Paris AFP in English 1847 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] Nairobi, April 23 (AFP)--Uganda's clandestine Popular Resistance Army (PRA) today claimed responsibility here for last night's fatal attack on Ugandan army vehicles outside Kampala.

In a telephoned statement a PRA spokesman said that members of the underground organisation killed 12 government soldiers, destroyed a lorry and a Landrover and drove away a second Landrover. (Uganda's Internal Affairs Ministry announced in Kampala earlier today that three army officers and two civilians were killed in the attack, near Mukono, 15 miles along the Jinja Road.)

The attack took place close to the ill-reputed Namanve forest, used as a dumping ground for the victims of Idi Amin's secret police and which, according to local reports, is now being used for the same purpose by members of the Ugandan Army. The PRA is believed to unite the military wings of two clandestine opposition movements, the Movement for the Struggle for Political Rights and the Uganda Freedom Movement.

CHAD

AIM OF GOUKOUNI'S VISIT TO TRIPOLI ASSESSED

AB281413 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT 28 Apr 81

[By Jean-Marie Wetzel]

[Text] Yaounde, Cameroon, April 28 (AFP)--Chad President Goukouni Queddei made his just-ended trip to Tripoli to complain that Libya had intervened against his men in Chadian faction fighting over Easter weekend, observers said here today.

This assessment followed reports from travelers reaching Cameroon that Libyan tanks had come to the aid of combatants loyal to Acyl Ahmat, foreign minister in Chad's shaky coalition government, against Goukouni men at Abeche, a major town in eastern Chad.

The travelers said about 100 people were killed in the fighting for Abeche, which lasted two or three days. It was not clear who was now in control of the strategic town, 170 kms (105 miles) from the border with Sudan, which was taken by Goukouni forces from those of rebel Defense Minister Hissein Habre at the end of the Chad civil war last December.

Libyan solders, tanks, planes and artillery helped the Goukouni coalition defeat Mr. Habre.

Mr. Acyl is known as the most pro-Libyan member of the government, and there have been reports that Mr. Goukouni's camp may not agree with the merger of the two neighboring countries proposed by Libya in January. The Chad president went to Tripoli on Saturday and the Libyan news agency, monitored in Paris, reported yesterday that he had left again.

FAN COMMISSIONER REMOVED FOR 'HIGH TREASON'

AB281805 Paris AFP in French 1725 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Paris, 28 April (AFP)--A FAN spokesman announced in a message to the AFP on Tuesday that Mr Mahamat Salem, commissioner for external relations, has been removed from the Northern Armed Forces Command Council [CCFAN], for high treason on behalf of Libya. Mr Hissein Habre's spokesman stated that the measure was taken because of the contacts established between the Libyans and Mr Mahamat Saleh in Togo, in November 1980, aimed, the spokesman said, at creating a dissident FAN movement destined to be associated with another Transitional National Union Government (GUNT).

In a communique released in Lagos, Nigeria, on 14 April, that is, 2 days later, Mr Mahamat Saleh, who was the GUNT finance minister until April 1980, Mr Batran Adoum Idriss chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Chad (MPLT), and Mr Moustapha Maitchari Alifa, president of the Western Armed Forces' (FAO), announced their decision to withdraw their confidence in and support for Mr Hissein Habre.

In Khartoum, Sudan, the Executive Committee of the MPLT asserted on 22 April, however, that the stand of Mr Batran Adoum Idriss, who is sought for high treason, did not reflect the movement's position adding that Mr Moustapha Maitchari Alifa's stand did not reflect the FAO's either.

On the same day in Lagos, Mr Mahamat Salem denied any intention of forming a new political organization in Chad, adding that he had neither the intention nor the desire to create a new Chadian faction with any person as, according to him, Chad is suffering from too many factions.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

AUTHORITIES ASK USSR TO REDUCE DIPLOMATIC STAFF

LD281848 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1730 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] The authorities in Equatorial Guinea have asked the ambassador of the Soviet Union in Malabo to reduce his diplomatic staff. During the Macias dictatorship the Soviets had privileged relations with Equatorial Guinea, and their diplomatic staff is still very numerous--totaling 195 diplomats.

A short while ago the Supreme Military Council which governs the country also asked the Soviet Union to leave the fishing base which it had at the Guinean port of Luba.

ZAIRE

PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT 28 APR

AB281609 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Speech by President Mobutu Sese Seko on Parliament Day in Kinshasa on 28 April--recorded]

[Text] Citizen President of the Legislative Council, citizen parliamentarians: In April 1978, during a speech at this same place, I decreed that the day of 24 April should be considered as a Parliament Day. In taking this action, I established a new tradition as well as a particular framework for yearly meetings between the founding chairman and the people's representatives. Today, in spite of my numerous engagements and various consultations, I have nevertheless tried to respect this tradition. Mainly, because constitutionally, I am the guarantee of the smooth running of all the various bodies of the MPR and also because I believe the Legislative Council remains an important body of our national party.

But before I continue, I would like to remind you of the deaths of two colleagues, People's Commissioners (Tchibebi Wa Lubinda) and Nzimpo Longo. These MPR militants are worthy of praise from the fatherland and I hope that the land of our forefathers will be mild and benevolent to them. I express my deepest condolences to the Legislative Council and the bereaved families. Let us observe a minute's silence for these famous men. Citizen President of the Legislative Council, Citizen People's commissioners, today I will talk about general policies, and I will be relatively brief. During the opening of the second ordinary session of the MPR Central Committee, I spoke broadly about our country's political, economic and social situation. I have noticed that our political life is very calm all over the country. We do not have any particular political problems either inside or outside our borders. Our country, Zaire, continues to strengthen its relations of cooperation in order to improve its image abroad and to maintain the confidence of its neighbors.

Last February, I met President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia in Lusaka. Recently, I held fruitful discussions with President Milton Obote of Uganda in his home. The main topics of our discussions were three problems: security, the refugees and commercial cooperation between our countries. Truthfully, I must say that the results of all these meetings greatly contributed to the indispensable climate of peace and confidence which is very dear to us.

Concerning the economic situation of our country, as you all know, we are at the decisive time of economic revival through the revival of agriculture. I have already explained all the aspects of the new agricultural policy to members of the Central Committee. At this very moment I am talking to you, work is seriously going on within this vital organ of our national party.

In the agricultural sector, we want to be realistic and especially effective. To this end, we have revised all the agricultural projects and retained only those which will more or less offer us maximum guarantees for the production of more foodstuff which will enable the worker, the civil servant, the peasant and the MPR activist to have more purchasing power and to fulfill his needs for food. This is a challenge which we must win at all costs. To do that, we need three things: organization, technique and discipline. That is why we have particularly defined the role of the state in its rightful place. Such a state will neither be a providing state for some nor a trading state for others, bur just a state for all. The state cannot do everything and should not do everything.

On the other hand, we want the state to be well governed and administered and the functions and new definition of the powers of regional governors reappraised. We are not losing sight of the important role which should be accorded to the traditional rulers as the driving force of galvanization and training. Even though our governors, as I have already indicated, will henceforth have more say, it is necessary here to warn against excesses. The Central Committee and Executive Council will ensure that the security machinery and provisions are respected and will give us any necessary report. In this joint effort, the Legislative Council will not be left out. Your contacts during your parliamentary recess, your investigations as well as all your institutional machinery will be valuable support for the well-being of our regions and for the success of the revolution.

Citizen Chairman of the Legislative Council, citizen people's commissioners, the people's commissioner in Zaire can fully play his role in complete security provided his activities are in keeping with provisions of the law and in accordance with the ideals of the MPR. This is the true code of conduct. This code of conduct can be drawn from the constitution which you yourselves have freely adopted. I would like this truth to be for each one of you a change of mind, otherwise the regrettable misunderstanding will continue to divert us continually from our path and the situation will be exploited by our detractors with the aim of dividing us. Unfortunately, some of your former colleagues, especially the 13 dismissed people's commissioners, did not want to understand this, and that is what led to their fate, about which you all know.

Believe me, I never thought that one day, one or several people's commissioners would be subjected to this fate. I am a democrat and I will never cease to affirm it and I will always show it. I would not like to have within the Legislative Council one group of parliamentarians with me and another group against me. Even if it is true that from time to time some disagreements appear, this is quite normal and throughout this case of 13 former people's commissioners, I have always refused to create even the slightest impression that I personally bear them a grudge. They are not enemies of the founding chairman; far from that! I consider them simply as militants to be reformed and even capable of returning to their places within the great family of the MPR, whenever there is the proof that they have returned to reason.

I am the father of the great Zairian family. Even though I know how to love, I also know how to punish. Because to me, the people's commissioner cannot be unconcerned about the party's actions. He is the same as all other MPR militants and cadres. He is concerned about every one of the party's actions, whether he likes it or not. Positive and constructive criticism can be highly useful, I admit that. It is one of the roles of the Legislative Council. But for goodness' sake, take care not to resort to demagogy and exhibitionism. It is demagogic to pretend that the Zairian people believe the party has not been able to bring them happiness. One person said so one day in this hall, during your deliberations. On the contrary, everyone agrees that without the MPR, peace, security and national unity could not have been attained in Zaire. These are appreciable achievements of the revolution.

On the other hand, I am also aware that some circles have attempted to create confusion about the role of the Central Committee, with regard to the Legislative Council for instance. Some people described the Legislative Council as a registry chamber. And yet, the Central Committee has its specific functions; if this need be said again, these functions are conceiving, deciding, directing, and supervising the discipline of the party. After the Central Committee, which is hierarchically superior to the Legislative Council, has made a decision on a major issue, the Legislative Council can no longer question it. This is just a matter of common sense, considering our political organization. That is what I meant when I referred to discipline within the MPR.

However, the Legislative Council makes laws, passes draft budgets, conducts parliamentary investigations and supervises the Executive Council and the state's public service--not to mention the other considerable role which I personally entrusted it with, that is to ensure control over the budgetary discipline through an appropriate mechanism until an audit office has been established. Frankly speaking, such powers are not generally granted to a body which is to play a second-rank role in a country. The people's commissioner must become aware of this and take a coherent stance on all issues.

The major advantage our democratic system can claim to enjoy--unlike several other world democracies--is that in our country, freedom of speech and freedom of opinion easily fit in with the need for order and discipline. Democracy within the MPR is not that type of "ultrademocracism" which is equated with unconstraint, anarchy and indiscipline, because discipline must be considered a combat capability of our party. Ours is not a society of clashes and confrontation, even though we do not always share the same opinion on all issues. That is the Zairian-styled democracy, of which we must all feel proud. This is why I will always favor all well-meant parliamentary moves, whether they are investigations, oral or written questions, conclusions from your reports or questions addressed to me within the framework of frequent (?consultations). For me, all this demonstrates a firm and normal parliamentary activity. In this regard, you can always count on the total support of the founding president.

Citizen President of the Legislative Council, citizen parliamentarians, on this Parliament Day, I would like to end by reminding you of the nation's motto: To serve and not to be served. This motto is not a meaningless slogan, but a true guide for our behavior and our conduct. I sometimes receive reports on compromising activities of some people's commissions either in commercial activities or in various activities which are not worthy of the high social rank you hold in the party and in Zairian society. I wish and think I can say that in our country, a statesman, one of which is the commissioner of the people, should always set an example and be a models to the other militants of the MPR. It is understandable that you engage in lucrative activities. You must choose those that will not involve you in any risk of debasing and compromising yourselves. Return to the land to produce food to feed to capacity a population of 27 million Zairians. The government will do everything to help financially and materially those of you who give evidence of good management. By so doing, you will honorably accomplish your illustrous duty to the MPR, and contribute to making the country a great, prosperous, worthy and respected nation, a nation which can, in the future participate with head held high in the great future of the nations of our dear continent, Africa.

LIBERIA

'HEAVY CRIME WAVE' REPORTED IN NIMBA COUNTY

AB290800 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] There has been a report of a heavy crime wave in (Niekekpa), Nimba County. Local government minister Oscar Quaih, who is presently in Nimba has expressed great concern over the issue and urged a Liberian-American-Swedish minerals company (Lamco) plant protecting force not to limit its operations to only the concession areas but to make other efforts to safeguard the residents around the area. Minister Quaih has already held a meeting with Nimba County Superintendent Robert Cole, as well as the Lamco administrative manager, (Laman Kawah), and the company's general manager, (John Pegollah). Their discussion was on how best the company's security force could curb the crime within the area.

UPPER VOLTA

WARNING ISSUED TO PEOPLE POSING AS CMRN MEMBERS

AB280700 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 27 Apr 81

[Military Committee for National Recovery announcement]

[Text] It has been noticed that some persons, posing as Military Committee for National Recovery [CMRN] members or claiming to have authorization from CMRN members have been engaging in actions capable of discrediting the CMRN.

I have the honor to inform the public that CMRN members, while performing special missions or carrying out checks that might be entrusted to them, must present to the institutions or persons to whom they have been sent either their CMRN membership cards or an official letter signed by the chairman of the CMRN and head of state. The public is advised to demand either of these documents mentioned above from any person who claims to be a CMRN member of acting on the CMRN's behalf.

Finally, we are warning all those who, one way or the other, are discrediting the CMRN by posing as its members or claiming to have its authorization.

Any person caught doing this will be severely dealt with. The CMRN cannot tolerate the actions of some unscrupulous or ill-motivated people. Made in Ouagadougou on April 27 1981. [signed] President Saye Zerbo

BRIEFS

NIGER ENVOY TO FRANCE--The former minister of mines of Niger, Mr Mounkeila Arouna, has been appointed his country's ambassador to France. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in French 1326 GMT 21 Apr 81 AB]

NIGERIAN AIRCRAFT PURCHASE--A contract of 131 million naira has been signed with Airbus Industries of France by the Nigeria Airways for the purchase of four passenger aircraft. Two of the aircraft are expected to be delivered at the end of 1983 while the other two will be delivered in 1984. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Apr 81 AB]

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL--Dakar, 25 Apr (AFP)--On Saturday President Adbou Diouf of the Republic of Senegal received the letters of credence of Mr Chiyuki Hiraoka, Japan's new ambassador to Dakar. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in French 1150 GMT 25 Apr 81 AB]

TOGO-VATICAN RELATIONS--Diplomatic relations have been established between Togo and the Vatican. Togo will therefore be represented at the Vatican by an ambassador while a nunciature will represent the Vatican in our country. [Text] [Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 22 Apr 81 AB]

ANGOLA

SRV, ANGOLAN YOUTH CONDEMN OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA

LD290512 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 28 Apr 81 EA

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Vietnam and the Angolan Youth Party have condemned the continuous illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa.

In a joint communique issued in Luanda, the two youth organizations called for an immediate withdrawal of the Pretoria regime's forces deployed in Namibia. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Angolan Youth Party also stressed the need to increase moral, political, diplomatic and material support to the frontline states threatened by Pretoria's aggressive actions. The Vietnamese youth delegation returned home today after a visit to Angola.

SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG COMMENTS ON PLANNED HAIG-BOTHA TALKS

LD282248 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The State Department has announced that the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has been invited to Washington for talks with the secretary of state, General Alexander Haig. According to the State Department, Mr Botha will make the visit on 14 May for general talks on U.S.-South African relations and the southern African situation.

Immediate irate reaction from African envoys at the United Nations and in the United States implies either that this type of consultation has never in the past taken place between the two countries, or that neither the United States nor South Africa has a role to play in the solution of the problems of Africa and southern Africa. Both implications are, however, untrue. The United States has had a long, historical relationship with South Africa, first in the nineteenth century with the various colonies and states that formed the Union of South Africa in 1910 and after the union became a republic in 1961.

There are numeous items to be discussed in the bilateral relations between the two countries.

The other aspect centers around attempts to solve some of Africa's most pressing problems. Apart from the obvious ones, such as the South-West Africa question and peace and stability in southern Africa, there are also other less talked about issues such as economic development, health, nutrition and the containment of Soviet expansion in Africa.

Far from being critical over the impending talks between Washington and Pretoria, African leaders should welcome it as part of a sincere attempt to help solve the real problems of the African Continent.

PLANS FOR PRODUCTION OF ENRICHED URANIUM REPORTED

LD290340 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 29 Apr 81

[Text] The South African Atomic Energy Board's research reactor will be driven by locally-produced atomic fuel elements in future. This has been announced in Pretoria by the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk. He said that since 1976 it had not been possible for South Africa to obtain nuclear fuel for the (?Safari-1) research reactor because of political reasons. It had therefore been decided that a strong endeavor has to be made to produce nuclear fuel in South Africa. It had also been most important that the broad research program, particularly the manufacture of radioisotopes for medical purposes, should not be interrupted because of the lack of nuclear fuel.

Mr de Klerk said that the South African Uranium Enrichment Corporation had succeeded in producing a limited quantity of 45 percent enriched uranium which had been turned into nculear fuel by the Atomic Energy Board. Because only a limited quantity of 45 percent enriched uranium had been produced, (?Safari-1) would initially be activated at only a quarter of its normal capacity of 20 megawatts.

TRANSKEI LEADER NOTES 'SUSPICIOUS' COAST INCIDENTS

LD281256 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] The prime minister of defense of Transkei, Chief George Matanzima, says his country is consulting naval experts about acquiring suitable craft to patrol the country's coast. Delivering his policy speech in Parliament in Umtata, Chief Matanzaima said reports were being received about suspicious incidents along the coast. As a result the (Nsakaba) military base dating back to the Second World War and the landing strip at (Nsakaba) had been reoccupied and would be used by the Transkei Defense Force.

Turning to the general strategic situation, Chief Matanzima said the West needed friends in southern Africa and Transkei's role in protecting the sea lanes around the southern tip of Africa should not be underestimated.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. STAND ON SOUTH AFRICA

LD281722 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Apr 81 CA

[Excerpts] President Kaunda says that foreign forces have interfered in the party's differences with the labor movement. In a television interview with heads of the mass media on the eve of his 57th birthday, President Kaunda said according to the information available to him he does not believe that all labor leaders are aware of what has been happening among them. He described the Central Committee's decision to readmit the 17 labor leaders to the party membership as a step taken on (?strength, logic and calm). Dr Kaunda stressed that the readmission is not a capitulation on the part of the Central Committee, as the labor leaders had asked in writing to be forgiven.

On the United States, President Kaunda said he is still worried with the Reagan administration's views on South Africa and added that he would like to have a clarification on the matter. The president said a statement by President Ronald Reagan in which he described racist South Africa as an ally of the West worries him a great deal. Dr Kaunda said it is incredible that South African leaders who were detained for their pro-Nazi activities during the Second World War are being described as allies of the West. Dr Kaunda pointed out that even Angola, which Washington has not recognized, still exports her (?ore) to America, which is a strategic mineral, to the United States. [sentence as heard]